BACK PAGE

Winter modes in the seductive boutiques



Boutiques are seductive. They offer in what is usually a cramped salesroom a myriad fashionable trivia and clothes hooks full of clothes which are normally somewhat avantgarde and a little in advance of the actual fashion line of the time.

Boutiques lure you in and invite you to rummage, to test and try. It often so happens that the person who went in to buy a scarf comes out with a coat.

It goes without saying that the coat in question will be the latest fashion rave and next year will look too ridiculous for words. Fashions come, fashions go — in boutiques they fly by at jet speed.

Folklore seems to be the theme of this winter's collection! Ideas have been gathered from all over the world and worked on to make them fashionable. The greatest success of all seems to be the gypsy-look.

These clothes are multicoloured with sweeping skirts and as many flounces as maybe. In the gypsy-look the calf-length skirt looks the best.

Skirt, bodice and ruffles are all of different patterns, but made of one kind of material. Silk and artificial yarns are the best cloths.

In England fringes have come into their own again. This spring they were to be seen in abundance in Chelsea. Girls were wearing leather coats far below their calves with long fringes.

In the Federal Republic these maxis have been seen together with fringeless skirts and fringed leather jackets in some boutiques in recent weeks.

Girls who want to dress warmer will wear the Mongolian look. This finds its expression mainly in overcoats. Leather or PVC coats are trimmed with sheepskin or artificial fur and seem to guarantee a winter free from sniffles and snuffles.

Finally hippies have brought back with them from their many wanderings in the Far East not only philosophical ideas but also new ideas for clothes' design.

Clothes made from Indian silkcloths and embroidered Indian silk are most charming for their designs and bright colours.

Embroideries from Pakistan worn with trousers look particularly exotic. The very plainness is refined in the case of clothes made from raw silk with a piece of genuine Indian jewellery at the fastener in the neck. Needless to say dresses such as this are not the cheapest.

Trouser suits are no longer something special or different in the fashion world. But "jumpsuits", a kind of rompers knitted in one piece, which are only suitable for slim girls, are an innovation.

For those who need to flatter their figure a little there are skirts with shoulder straps in chunky knit with large-square tartan pattern. These can be worn over jumpsuits.



Latest maxi styles in woollen materials

(Photos: Ursula Knipping)

From France come corded jumpsuits, narrow in the leg, which can be worn over trousers. It is best to wear a very-mini-skirt of PVC with a wide belt in conjunction with this.

Once again it is England that provides the extravagant boutique fashion for evening wear. This consists of dresses in silks and satins with a very deep cutaway worn without any underclothes.

Designer of this very feminine and very daring style is Ossie Clark who operates from the King's Road in London.

He said: "For as long as a woman is young she should not be afraid to uncover her better points." He has designed accordingly. But in England only very progressive young women wear Clark's expensive models.

Although the idea caused guffaws of laughter only one year since, clothes made of metal seem to be finding friends among the more fashion-conscious women.

But this trend has so far only gone as far as bodices and takes the form of a kind of chain-skirt in gold or silver which can be very attractive. It is worn over single-coloured clothes of the simplest cut and can be considered more jewellery than clothing.

Metal brassieres have been introduced for wear under cutaway evening dresses. They are usually decorated with jewels.

But the most extensive use of metal is in belts. These are no longer made of just leather, plastic or fabric. They have been developed into metal ornaments. They are usually in the form of a set of chains decorated with jewels, and welded metal plates, with little tiny jingling bells from Mexico. These hang down over the skirt and it goes without saying they are highly expensive.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 6 December 1969)

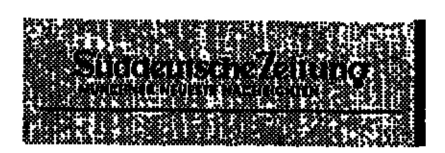
The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

Hamburg, 13 January 1970
Ninth Year - No. 405 - By air

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East Bloc's Bonn policy has no effective coordination



Whatever else may be said on the subject the Federal government's new policy towards the Eastern Bloc has achieved results. Bilateral talks with Moscow on mutual renunciation of the use of force are in progress, political discussions with Warsaw are shortly to begin and Prague too is pressing for an exchange of views.

Another result has been East Berlin's counter-move of making maximum demands in writing with the aim of braking for the time being the further progress of detente.

Is Rainer Barzel, the leader of the Opposition in Bonn, right in maintaining that the conduct of all these Eastern Bloc governments is utterly synchronised?

As yet the October 1969 joint declaration by Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers giving the go-ahead for bilateral talks between any member country and "interested" Western opposite numbers on security matters is still valid.

Eastern Bloc governments are, of course, under obligation to coordinate negotiations, as has repeatedly been made clear, but there can be no talk of utter and complete synchronisation — if only because the topics in question are different in every case.

Mutual renunciation of the use of force is being discussed with the Soviet Union at Moscow's own suggestion. This country's counter-demand was that the Kremlin expressly renounce its claim to a right to intervene in German enemy territory.

Bonn's declared readiness to exchange similar declarations with all Eastern Bloc countries, including the GDR, has clearly proved helpful in the present ralks, showing as it does that there is no intention of playing off one Eastern Bloc country against another.

Warsaw and Prague would like to negotiate on problems of their own: recognition of their present frontiers, invalidation of the Munich Agreement from the day of signature and all that that legally entails and, finally, intensified economic cooperation.

In both capitals unchanged solidarity with the GDR is expressly emphasised. Bonn no longer raises the objections it did to similar declarations by Bucharest and Belgrade.

At the same time there is no question of differences between Bonn and East Berlin having to be settled before talks with Czechoslovakia and Poland can begin.

Obstacles are being placed in the way of further negotiations by two quarters with decidedly different ends and means. One is the Opposition in Bonn. It is the more harmless of the two, consisting as it does of grapeshot designed to be spectacularly effective at home.

Parliamentary party leader Barzel, always an active parliamentarian, thinks up demands he feels this country should make and wishes the Federal government would think of a few more. For his own are impracticable for negotiation puposes.

In one instance he talks of alterations to Poland's domestic policy towards national minorities — as if we would consider proposals of this kind by the other side!

In another he expresses understanding for the present frontiers but wishes that the talks also dealt with ways and means of making these frontiers more open. Who would not like to see this come about as soon as possible!

Yet when all is said and done the immediate sine qua non for both sides is the establishment of security. At the present stage this is the only direction Bonn's counter-demands can and ought to take.

This country's Western allies appreciate the fact. They repeatedly make it clear that any improvement in the security of the Federal Republic (for which they are partly responsible) that can be reached by way of negotiation is quite in order as far as they are concerned.

Herr Barzel's further argument that Walter Ulbricht still favours reunification, under the Red Flag of course, and that this country should accordingly not renounce reunification either is, one can only suppose, merely a rhetorical flourish.

The obstacles placed in the way of Bonn's policy towards the Eastern Bloc of Walter Ulbricht are far more serious and far more dangerous.

His proposals also contain a great deal of phraseology designed for rhetorical effect, such as the demand that the Federal Republic hold a plebiscite on his draft treaty on the German Question and the demand that Bonn revoke its treaties with the Western Allies.

The Bonn treaty does indeed contain a number of formulas that make a flexible policy towards the Eastern Bloc more difficult and to which our allies have long ceased to attach any importance.

But it is too much to ask that this country revoke on this account the treaty that forms the basis of its security as a member of the Western alliance, particularly at the behest of Herr Ulbricht, who at the same time swears renewed allegiance to his own, Eastern alliance.

An experienced tactician, the East Berlin leader only makes these demands in order to make agreement on the possible more difficult.

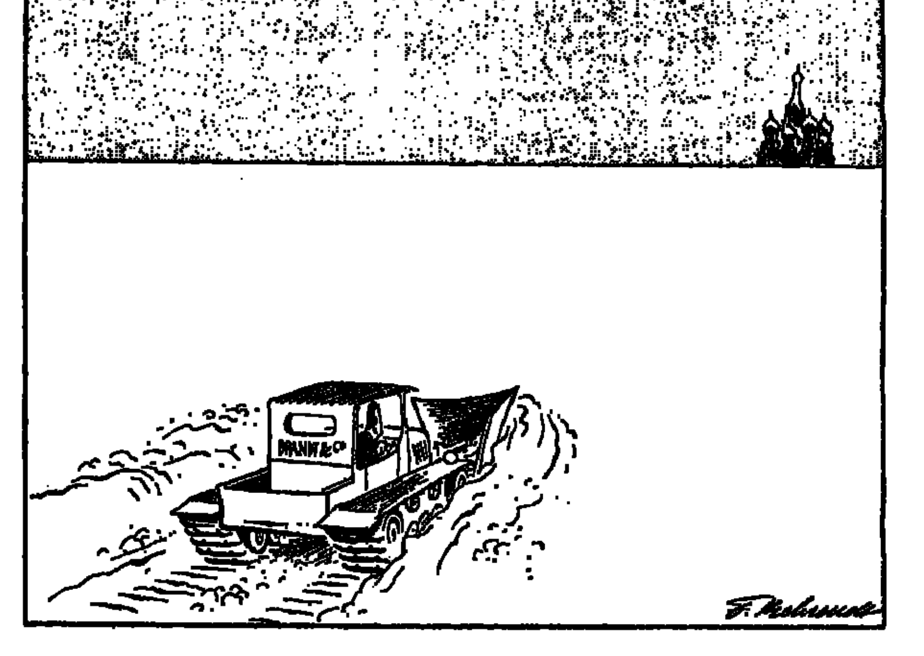
This is not to say that he has no intention of negotiating. there are indications in his latest comments that concessions, expecially on matters relating to West Berlin, which are extremely important for Bonn, are not out of the question.

At the very least, though, Walter Ulbricht aims to demand an astronomic price himself and prevent his allies from reaching agreement before the last ounce of benefit for himself has been extracted.

He has already succeeded in having the Moscow press remind Bonn that the interests of the GDR are sacrosanct to its allies and sound the alarm for greater restraint in other negotiations. It is as well that Willy Brandt in his Eastern policy remains patient and harbours no illusions.

Immanuel Birnbaum

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 3 January 1970)



Is there anyone coming out to meet me?

(Cartoon: Fritz Behrendt/DER TAGESSPIEGEL)

IN THIS ISSUE

Possibilities of new Eastern Bloc policy initiatives

Handelsblatt

Bonn's Eastern Bloc policy prospects will dominate the foreign policy stage for the first few months of this year. By 14 January and Chancellor Brandt's state of the nation report at the latest the general public will learn how the government proposes to respond to Walter Ulbricht's letter to President Heinemann and the GDR's draft treaty.

Despite the secrecy agreed when the Polish note was handed over at the Foreign Office the form the dialogue between this country and Poland is to take will soon be seen. Regardless of political discussion trade talks with Poland are shortly to be resumed and talks with Hungary are scheduled for mid-February.

At the moment a date for resumption of the Moscow talks on renunciation of the use of force has not been named but no one in Bonn doubts that Helmut Allardt, this country's ambassador in Moscow, will be seeing his opposite numbers again.

Bonn's determination to attach prime importance to Eastern policy is not without dangers and pitfalls, though. It can be assumed that every move made on the Eastern side is to a certain extent coordinated. The failure of one initiative could thus lead to the others too proving non-starters.

The next few months will reveal whether the Federal government will score its first foreign policy success or its endeavours are doomed to end in stagnation and maybe even failure.

(Handelsblatt, 2 January 1970)

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Inter-Bloc tensions decline

Süddeutsche Zeitung
MÜNCHNER NEUESTE NACHRICHTEN

Reviewing international politics in 1969 calls to mind a number of dramatic events not one of which brought about any great change in the power constellation.

The war in Vietnam, civil war in black Africa and continued fighting on the borders between Israel and neighbouring Arab countries cost more lives and destroyed more economic assets than in the year before.

Reintegration of Czechoslovakia under Moscow's powerful hand was brought to a successful conclusion and dispelled the last dreams of freedom among the peoples concerned.

Yet viewed in terms of world politics these and other events were of importance only insofar as they restricted or increased the freedom of action of the great powers.

Up till the First World War the European concert of five, and for a time six, countries gave the lead in world affairs for a century, deciding matters even in the furthermost countries of Asia and South America. . .

In this day and age a new interplay of world power is taking place on a worldwide basis. In addition to the United States and the Soviet Union Mao's China is emerging as the third future factor of comparable size. It remains to be seen whether Western Europe can retain a role of its own among the giants.

In the Far East an economically reinvigorated Japan is trying to remain independent of the Big Three, while even a country with so large a population as India is having growing difficulty in maintaining its position in the face of Chinese pressure without submitting to Soviet influence.

The attempt, made in the early sixties, to bring about an amalgamation of the world's non-aligned countries has not led to much, certainly not the creation of an independent power factor.

At the beginning of 1969 Washington made an attempt to relieve the power-political and moral strain of the Vietnam war. The Paris talks with North Vietnam and the South Vietnamese Communists roughly coincided with Republican President Nixon's assumption of power.

As tangible results of any kind have yet to ensue from the negotiations the new President then hesitantly went on to try out a unilateral withdrawal of military forces from the fighting country.

Talk of the anti-Communist South Vietnamese being able to continue the war convinced the Americans, let alone their Asian opponents. It remains to be seen to what extent the US withdrawal can be continued in 1970 on the basis of this transparent superficial argument.

The majority of the American general public has long since abandoned hope of eventual success by means of continuation of America's own war effort.

Washington's allies in Europe are not encourgaed by the United States holding on to an untenable position on the Asian mainland for too long. They regard this more as a danger to their hopes of American firmness on other fronts.

Tension between the United States and the Soviet Union, which dominated the international scene for nearly two decades, continued to decline. Agreement on the non-proliferation treaty was followed by the beginnings of strategic arms limitation talks.

Displeasure at Soviet behaviour in Czechoslovakia dating from 1968 did not continue to the same extent once Moscos's assurance had been confirmed that the invasion of Czechoslovakia was not to be the beginning of a new march on the West but merely the wielding of an iron broom in its own house.

The smaller Eastern Bloc countries' increasing leeway for negotiations with the West proved that these bromides were not just meaningless phrases. Warsaw and Prague may not conduct special political talks even with this country without first having to demand that all their allies' demands be fulfilled.

The Rumanian style of cultivating relations in this way is no longer combatted Hesitantly it is even being adopted by others.

Before engaging in further talks with Washington Moscow made a further attempt to relieve the burden on its eastern front created by pressure from China, its competitor as a communist great power. At the beginning of the year the pressure assumed more serious proportions than ever before as military clashes occurred on the Ussuri and the Amur.

With the aid of a meeting between Premier Kosygin and Chou En-lai this pressure was canalised to the extent that formal frontier talks were resumed in the autumn. So far, though, tangible progress has not been achieved.

China's terms for long-term peace

The Chinese are only prepared to consider a formal long-term truce in the event that the Soviet government admits, at least in principle, the illegality of its territorial claims. Since this is viewed in Moscow as out of the question the Chinese are apparently merely playing for time.

Peking aims to move its nuclear plant in Sinkiang, not far from the Soviet frontier, to safer locations before resuming frontier activity near the Trans-Sibirian railway, which is where the Russian are vulnerable.

Soviet politicians no doubt see through this game but now use it as an alibi for disarmament talks with Washington.

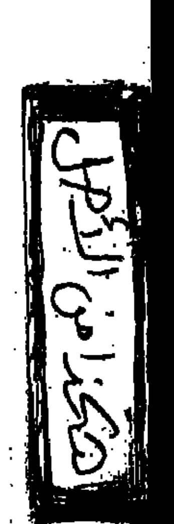
For its part the United States has no intention of aiding Moscow against Peking. In reducing of aiding Moscow against Peking. In reducing differences of opinion with China the Americans would like to have further irons in the international political fire for the event that Soviet diplomats create further trouble.

Towards the end of the year the State Department established fresh contacts with Peking and the Chinese obliged, without, however, making the slightest concession to American policy in Asia. On this diplomatic from too Peking is playing for time, convinced that in ten years at the most it will have a more powerful armaments potential at its disposal in world affairs.

Meanwhile, European integration moves have progressed only as far as the long postponed talks on enlarging the Common Market by admitting Britain and others are due to be held in Brussels in 1970. But commercial union is still a long way off and political union further still.

Immanuel Birnbaum

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 30 December 1969)



The United Nations in turmoil

25 YEARS OF BITTER STRUGGLE

This year will see the twenty-fifth anniversary of the foundation of the United Nations. It will not be an occasion for pleasure unalloyed.

The course and meagre outcome of the twenty-fourth UN General Assembly just ended in New York show that the 128-member would organisation with its annual budget of a bare 170 million dollars remains incapable of being the great and dominating instrument of peace in international politics of which its idealistic founding fathers dreamed.

Unease, impotence and confusion reign in the United Nations building.

The atmosphere at the UN did, indeed, change in the sixties. The frequently successful and devoted work of many UN organisations is paling in significance beside propaganda displays in New York.

The mass influx of emerging African nations and the indoctrination of the Afro-Asian Bloc with talk of combatting colonialism, imperialism and racism and the opportunistic inclination towards would-be impressive marjorities have degraded the annual General Assembly and committee meetings to the status of arenas for propaganda speeches, ideological accusations and unrealistic resolutions.

Delegates talk and act as representatives of their governments but many of them have no time for the Western, democratic basic principle of the UN that international political problems be settled by means of fair discussion, mutual conviction and pragmatic decision.

To the applause of communist delegates extremist Arabs, Africans and Asians take the UN to be the right place for propaganda resolutions that satisfy their own camp only and otherwise create confusion. The apparent strength of numbers leaves the UN politically powerless.

Unlike Dag Hammerskjöld, who died in 1961, his successor U Thant, a man said by an American journalist to have the dynamics of a noodle, has proved unable to control developments.

Secretary-General U Thant made his fatal mistake in May 1967 when he submitted to Egyptian pressure and ordered the withdrawal of the UN peace force from the Middle East. He pointed out the danger to peace at the time but the price he paid to Cairo cannot but be credited to the UN's debit account.

In evacuating the buffer zone between Egypt and Israel U Thant was also abandoning Hammarskjöld to act, as shown in the Middle East in 1956 and in the Congo, and place the UN between the two sides, keeping them apart as far as possible and obviating the need for great power intervention.

U Thant has paid for the abandonment of this role by paralysing his own position in world affairs in accordance with Russia's intentions (remember Krushhchev's troika proposal of 1960). Well-meaning but impotent, U Thant has since played only minor parts.

The Secretary-General's Middle Eastern tactics have made it clear that the UN need not be expected to prove an effective guarantor of demilitarised zones or internationalisation of any kind – even though both regularly recur in peace proposals for the Middle East.

The sole remaining United Nations force is on Cyprus. In the Middle East El Fatah terrorists have already drawn their conclusions from the UN's weakness. Recruiting reinforcements in UN-paid refugee camps they have declared that they would in future regard every UN soldier as an enemy and act accordingly.

Yet this statement of intent does not prevent many UN members from hailing the same terrorists as freedom fighters.

It is characteristic of the new, "progressive" atmosphere at the UN that Eastern Bloc (including Soviet Bielorussian and Ukrainian) and extremist Afro-Asian efforts to convert the world peace organisation into a fighting force against Western positions and white African countries have made considerable progress.

Their terse dictum is that the majority is right and this is an argument that impresses Western public opinion. By majority decision Israel's occupation regime and defense against Arab terror acts have been censured on several occasions but not a mention has been made of the Soviet occupation regime in Prague.

With U Thant's assistance the UN decided to declare not Soviet arms deliveries to the Arab world but the Smith regime in Rhodesia a threat to world peace and regretted that Britain was not using force against Rhodesia. It has come to some pass when the world peace organisation preaches violence!

The catalogue of one-sided resolutions could be continued ad infinitum now that Israel has become the butt of collective attack in the Security Council and South Africa and Portugal in the last General Assembly.

Not even the Portuguese demand, justified according to the UN Charter, for an impartial investigation committee to be sent to its African overseas territories has found favour with prejudiced judges – to no small extent due to the opportunist line taken by Western countries.

This was nothing but emotional rabble-rousing and the General Assembly provided fresh evidence of unwillingness and inability to look international political reality in the face.

The convenient excuse that UN sessions are a forum and meeting-place conceals only an incomprehensible resignation to being unable to carry out the Charter's peace mission.

To mark its twenty-fifth anniversary the United Nations is to issue special stamps and medals with the motto "Peace and Progress." The General Assembly added "Justice" but omitted "Freedom." One can hardly regret the fact.

With trends at the UN as they are at the moment many countries would take the demand for freedom to be a licence for further liberation wars in the Vietnam or El Fatah manner.

Peter Meyer-Ranke

(DIE WELT, 29 December 1969)

The German Tribune

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■ HOME AFFAIRS

Young Democrats believe FDP is too right-wing



During the twenty year history of the Federal Republic all parties have had difficulties at times with their own youth organisations. Young members used to – and still do – overshoot the mark.

In the fifties the Christian Democrats' Young Union tended to go too far to the right and the Young Socialists too far to the left.

The Young Democrats of the Free Democratic Party were and are simply rebellious. Their revolt usually peters out. After their first revolt against the party establishment at the party's Munich congress in 1963 was put down the late Hans-Jürgen Dürr, then Walter Scheel's press adviser in the Ministry of Development Aid, said, "As I was once business manager of the Young Democrats I am able to make a due valuation and appraisal of this type of attack."

But the more violent clashes between the FDP and the Young Democrats – typified by the conflict between generations – that now threaten need more serious evaluation. This sort of thing causes little trouble of the CDU and SPD and can strengthen them. But it could easily be fatal for a party like the FDP that has only just scraped the five per cent hurdle needed for representation in the Bundestag.

In the middle of December 1969 the Young Democrats challenged their party executive in an internal discussion. The party has remained silent about it but the Young Democrats did not hesitate to make the conflict public.

After the next party congress – due in May 1970 – they will decide if they still think it expedient to continue supporting the party or whether they should split with it.

The party has already had to cut its ties with the Liberal Students' Union because in some respects it was even more extreme left-wing than the Socialist Students' Union (SDS). Now the FDP are in danger of losing their second youth organisation – and at the very time than the voting age is being reduced from 21 years to eighteen, an event in which the party had placed such great hopes.

The Young Democrats can be content. Of all imaginable coalitions in the Federal Republic the elections of 28 September produced the one that most correspond to their ideas.

But they would still like to push the party further to the left even though in foreign policy at least it is already further left than the SPD. They shut their eyes to the fact that their action could alienate voters from the party. It is these voters who are keeping the party above the five per cent hurdle at present.

They have taken that into account as well. The Federal executive of the Young Democrats believe that nationalist or conservative thinkers have already left the party. The FDP has therefore already passed the lowest point of its decline. Now only a sharp turn to the left will attract new voters.

On their candidate list for the Federal states the Free Democrats offered a carefully mixed blend of progressive and conservative candidates. In Federal states where the CDU was dominant the conservative element was stressed in states where the SPD was dominant there were more progressive candiates.

According to the first election analyses available to the party leadership these tactics paid off, saving the party from ruin. Any further allentation of the liberal middle-class voters group, for a long time the group most staunchly for the party, would be a risky venture.

Unmoved by this, the Federal executive of the Young Democrats are toying with the idea of making themselves independent of the party if need be, calling themselves Democrats '73 and contesting the next elections to the Bundestag.

Young Democrat leader Wolfgang Lüder and his deputy Heiner Bremer hope to attract young voters from all sides in this way. They are thinking of a party representing the youth against the older generation.

But the statistics of the election held on 28 September 1969 – as far as they could be processed and analysed up to now – do not bode well for a project of this type. Young voters were little more left-wing than the older generation. The increase in SPD voters for instance is spread evently over all age ranges. The only difference was that more women voted SPD than had done before.

The conflict between party and youth organisation flared up on the superficial question of personalities. Former party leader Erich Mende is a thorn in the flesh of the Young Democrats even though he is loyal to the party in spite of his reservations concerning the new course.

Siegfried Zoglmann and Ernst Achenbach are further targets. Representing the nationalist, conservative wing of the party, they probably attracted votes even though they have no political importance in Bonn. They could become a political factor only by joining the CDU. But this would be tantamount to suicide. This sort of step is not expected from Mende even though he speaks his mind at embarrassing moments.

There is a deep-running ideological clash about the term middle-class. In the sphere of foreign policy the FDP and the Young Democrats could still come to an understanding. For the FDP line is only a question of the tactically correct time, its attitude towards the German Democratic Republic (recognition as a sovereign state, though not as a foreign country) is a final endeavour.

But differences in the sphere of domestic policy cannot be bridged. The FDP adheres to the existing social structure even though it would like liberalise certain features, the university system for instance.

Dreams of a new society

Young Democrats on the other hand dream of a completely new social structure, a sort of soviet system in which everybody has his say. They expounded upon this system at the party conference at Nuremberg but they could not succeed with this in public discussion with experienced politicians.

The Young Democrats imagine for example a form of enterprise consisting of three groups. Suppliers of capital receive the usual interest but have no influence on the direction of the firm. Worker-enterprisers invest part of their wages in the factory or enterprise and become co-owners, choosing the management. Finally there are employees who receive no more than the fixed wage. This plan is not clouded by any economic experience nor the laws of the labour and goods market.

But the conflict is kindled by the Young Democrats with individualistic pigheadedness. Their declared slogan is that grand-dad's FDP should finally die. The FDP is liberal enough however to allow them autonomy in their organisation and sees that they have no money worries. It could be that killing grand-dad's FDP will be suicide and the end of the third-largest party of the Federal Republic.

Robert Meinhardt

(Handelsblatt, 30 December 1969)

SPD worries about workers' political sympathies

They are proud that they have taken over political control and that they have had their largest post-war increase in membership. On the other hand they are concerned about workers' sympathies.

Those are the main points of the Social Democrats' review of the past year and their prospects for the future, given to the press by business manager Hans-Jürgen Wischnewski.

Wischnewski, Social Democrat election campaign manager, called 1969 the most important year in the 106 year history of the SPD. He reminded his listeners of the decisive events of the year – the election of a Social Democrat Federal President, the SPD result at the Federal elections and finally the take-over of government.

Wischnewski said that the SPD, with a membership of more than three quarters of a million – 31,000 new members joined in the past year, has now twice as many members as all the other parties in the Federal Republic put together. The increase in membership was strongest during the election campaign, said Wischnewski, making 1969 the best of the last twenty years.

The SPD business manager made no secret of the fact that, contrary to other groups, workers in this country had disappointed the wishes of the SPD with respect to both increase in membership and electoral behaviour. According to the electoral analysis conducted by the SPD sixty per cent of workers voted for the Social Democrats. In Austria however the figure was seventy per cent and in Norway it rose to 75 per cent.

Wischnewski said that 41.7 per cent of new members were workers, compared with 51.4 per cent in 1965. The percentage of civil servants and employees had increased from 27.2 to 31.6. The state elections had shown a falling-off of the working vote but the party had been able to compensate fully for this, though without making any progress. Auxiliary and skilled workers particularly are under-represented in the membership figures.

Wischnewski singled out two main areas for future political activity on a national level. All possible strength must be summoned to support the government and the party must always be a few steps ahead of the government, and continually give it new stimulus.

In preparation for an analysis of the situation within the party the SPD is getting ready for the largest interogation of members that there has ever been in a party. 150,000 members under the age of forty are to answere long questionnaires that will then be processed by electronic computers.

They will be asked questions like: Do you believe that you have enough influence in the party organisation? If not, how could this be improved? Are you happy in your local party? If not, what must be changed?

(Münchner Merkur, 23 December 1969)

Von Hassel and parliamentary reforms

Kai-Uwe von Hassel, the Bundestag President has said that he is happy with the effects of the resolutions concerning parliamentary reform drawn up last summer by the last Bundestag and put into operation for the first time by the new Bundestag.

In an interview with Deutschlandfunk von Hassel said that debates had become more interesting and more lively. This was also recognised by citizens – letters to the Bundestag showed this.

The changes in the rules of Bundestag procedure meant that the government was faced by a strong opposition in the new Bundestag. The most important reform decided upon up to now is, in von Hassel's view the plan to reorganise the work of the Bundestag according to the various spheres.

Among the positive results of the decisions concerning standing orders taken during the summer von Hassel cited the "free speech" that was now in greater use and the tendency to shorter speeches. The new rules envisage each party spokesman being allowed to speak for 45 minutes while further speakers will have to restrict themselves to fifteeen minutes. Provision is made for exceptions on this rule.

Referring to the fact that the majority of laws were drafted by the Federal government, von Hassel said that he did not find this particularly alarming. In the past and again in the new Bundestag the drafts of "political" laws would come from the centre of the house. It was not the Bundestag's job to compete with the superior expertise of bureaucracy, he said. He added that it was important for the Bundestag to muster so much expert knowledge in the face of the government so that members can decide on the politically essential points.

Von Hassel was reserved in his statements about the next stages of parliamentary reform. (The decisions of last summer were only a beginning.) He opposed an increase in publicity given to meetings of the parliamentary committees.

He agreed with the plan to strengthen the powers of the petitions committee. But he turned down the suggestion of appointing an Ombudsman on the Scandinavian model, a sort of complaints office, with certain rights to overrule decisions. Von Hassel pointed out that Federal states normally had responsibility in their own administration.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 29 December 1969)

■ PROFILE

Hilda Heinemann – a woman of unassuming dignity



At first sight the Villa Hammerschmidt in Bonn looks good enough to eat. It really is a pretty little candy castle.

Approaching the villa from the Adenauerallee the visitor is admitted through the green fencing and saunters along the gently undulating asphalt path. I was told good-humouredly that I really had no business doing so as this was reserved for heads of state.

I went up the three or four steps to the entrance and the glass soor opened. A polite middle-aged man (a detective of course) smiled, introduced himself and shook hands.

"Good morning", he said, "You are a little early. Would you like to take a seat for a moment? " I said that I'd be glad to and felt like striking up a conversation. "Isn't the weather terrible? " That was to make it clear that I did not feel completely at home here. I felt as tough I was paying a visit to pleasant freinds who had just moves home.

If I stretch a point they really are friends and indeed the Heinemanns moved in little more than two months ago. First of all they had brightened up the sombre house with white wall fabric. This produces a light, unpretentious, inviting effect that seems to welcome the visitor with open arms. It is hard to avoid the use of symbolism and it is tempting to take over the adjectives of interior decoration as metaphors for describing the villa's inhabitants. Of course both master and mistress are reflected in the house. They have both adapted their allotted environment to harmonise with their own personaltities.

The same goes for Hilda Heinemann's "office". When reminded of the fame that is an inevitable concomitant of being the Federal President's wife she replied that she did not feel as if she were sitting high up on a throne.

When asked whether her new status had changed her in any way her reply came swiftly. "No," she said, leaning forward for emphasis. "No, it has changed neither my inner or outer attitude to life, it has caused me little trouble. I am . . ." – she searched for a word.– "I am . . . yes, I am as I am."

What is she like?

She is not afraid to ask questions. When visiting an art exhibition in Berlin she requested that the artists should be present. She wanted to be able to question them so that she could learn to understand their works. After seeing some examples of Pop-art in Amsterdam's Stedelijke Museum she doubted whether she had understood everything, but she did say that she found Pop-art amusing.

She has a very healthy curiosity which means that she is thirsty for knowledge and full of interest for things. She went with her husband to the atomic research establishment in Jülich even though her presence was not expected.

She thinks about things. When I asked her which of the three subjects she had studied she was particularly fond of, theology, history or German, she replied without hesitation, "Theology." But by this she does not mean the subject as a subject as so much as actual religious practice. "For me," she said, "Believing means believing and doing, not just doing."

She thinks that ethics have been given too much prominence. "Other people too have ethics. The basis or Christianity is not ethics but reconciliation in Christ's sense." If deeds are given too much stress we know nothing about the need for redemption or the Fall of Man. Indeed it sometimes seems as if the Church has become a social club where people toss their belief from one hand to another like a hot potato for fear of burning their mouths.

But what is Hilda Heinemann like?

She was thoroughly surprised at the almost blind faith shown by strangers in letters to her. These letters, contrary to some exaggerated reports, do not arrive at the Villa Hammerschmidt in their thousands but there are enough to occupy fully anyone who tries to give them even the minimum of attention.

She was surprised at the ceremony to which diplomats especially are subject to. Although she did not say so in so many words she seemed surprised at adult men bowing down to the demands of protocol.

The wife of the Federal President has now got used to the roll of drums and the salute by ships' guns. The state visit to the Netherlands helped in this respect. In this particular case she shares her husband's dry humour and fascinating compromise as well as the practice of not engaging in quarrels about matters of principle over trifles. One of her grandsons asked her whether she had seen the cruiser. "No, I only heard it!" was her reply.

But she says that at times protocol can be very pleasant because it puts everything and everybody in their place. Even if it sometimes has the air of a circus she consoles herself with the thought that in any case the people concerned enjoy it.

So what is Hilda Heinemann like?

I am wll aware that deception is an occupational hazard of my profession so I shall not try to do anything like writing a three-sentence testimonial about her. It would be foolish and the man who knows her best would probably be astonished at the qualities that a stranger claims to have discovered in her.

We talked together for one and a half hours. Our enthusiasm was so great that we let our coffee go cold and we could no longer hear the chugging of ships' motors down below on the Rhine. I also forgot to make mental notes of the room. I forgot to distinguish between encumbrance and ornament on the writing desk.



Hilda Heinemann
(Photo: J. H. Darchinger)

And I remember only one aspect of her clothing. She was wearing a somple dress made of blue-grey material. And to begin with we were both a little shy.

Long after I had left the white house two seemingly contradictory impressions took shape in my mind. The first was one of unexpressed, self-evident and completely natural dignity. I cannot imagine anyone ever saying anything unseemly to her. And the other impression was described by a young lady who lives and observes in Bonn as that of a woman who is a girl at heart.

To describe a 73-year-old in this way seems at first sight to be lacking in respect. On closer examination the detail is seen. She looks very much as she did on her wedding photograph. In other words, she is still very young today and unbelievably modern, though without wmphasising the fact. And her reaction to every situation is, shall we say, quite natural and rather shy.

When I referred to the rather contradictory reports of her liking for cookery she replied without batting an eyelid, "Goodness! Has someone written that I like cooking and even have a passion for it? Far from it!" She says that all her children can vouch for the fact that she is a poor cook. She adds, "Men are usually better cooks." But that was not true of her husband and son though it did apply to her three sons-in-law.

Cooking and the kitchen have no charms

How pleasant it is to see a German woman in a representative position express a complete lack of interest in the preparation of food and drink. In her we find no complexes that manifest themselves in arrogance and awkwardness.

I asked Hilda Heinemann which of the gratuitous titles that she is given she would most like to have. First Lady on the model of the wife of the President of the United States? No. The German translation? If need be. Mother of the Country? Hm – perhaps so. As long as the term permits an active role, as long as it allows her to be a mother who acts and who uses the office she has obtained by chance to do something positive, to set wheels in motion and shake up institutionalised thought and practice.

For in fact Hilda Heinemann cannot make influential decisions, nor can she partake of plenty without restrictions. She has an official position which really isn't one – a difficult position for someone "who has a job for the first time in her life", and not an easy one at that.

Her position is both mentally and physically exhausting. For example she may have a reception, then accompany her husband as he goes to lay a wreath, followed by a visit to a home for mentally subnormal children. Then she may change for the umpteenth time that day and attend a large reception wearing evening dress and taking part in conversation that is not only amusing but witty.

Her presence at the wreath-laying during the state visit to the Netherlands was not typical. Protocol generally believes that women should not have to attend functions of this type. It was typical for Hilda Heinemann, a woman who considers such consideration for women's feelings to be antiquated and wrong.

There is a very simple answer to the question of how to describe her role. She is the wife of Federal President Gustav Heinemann. Ruth Bahn-Flessburg, her personal adviser, interrupts and says that she is the wife of the citizen's president. This underlines the truth.

The functions of her non-office include a bit of representation of course. She avoids cocktail parties as much as possible. She works something out in her head "There are 110 ambassadors who have 110 wives. That makes 220 parties or teas already."

She avoids as much as possible schools, homes and kindergartens who are ready for her visit and act out an everyday routine to her. She also avoids the innumerable clubs and associations that like to fill their guest-lists with the names of famous people. She is also wary about becoming a patroness,

She sees her office in a different light, a little different to the way that Elly Heuss-Knapp and Wilhelmine Lübke saw an office that they carried out admirably. Hilda Heinemann has taken over traditions but she has stressed them differently and added new slants. The job has changed.

One example is work done towards the convalescence of mothers. This needs a stimulant to free the term or the aura of the three main female virtues of the Bismarckian era church, children and kitchen. It is no longer sufficient to enable mothers to enjoy their first holiday free from care. The children must also be taken care of.

There is a further example. After a television broadcast on Amnesty International she said, "We must do something here." She was pleased that donations did not disappear into one big coffer but were used for the good of one particular individual. In that way not only innocent political prisoners were helped but also their families. And this method also helped the country wherever the country of the political detainee is.

When she sees that her presence influences thought or loosens purse strings she walks through walls of gold and mink. tolerates cameras and permits people to daule her with sptolights. Then she travels as far as Münster to attend a concert in the hope that the UNICEF collecting boxes will be filled fuller and more quickly.

A third example touches upon one of her special interests – mentally handicapped children. "That interests me a lot", she says, "I would like to do something for them." Children are now tended until they are fourteen or fifteen years old. Attempts are made to make them alert and to teach themskills. They are then discharged somewhere. Hilda Heinemann asks why there is such great expenditure when in the end there is no other solution than to confine them in infirmaries of mental institutions. Many more residential homes are necessary, she claims, where these young people can receive expert attention and where they can work, however much effort that takes. At the moment Hilda Heinemann is collecting statistics from all over the Federal states in order to gain a picture of the facts.

A fourth example still does not exhaust them. This one concerns her mail. Money is hardly ever solicited or begged for. More than half the requests are cases of the law's helplessness. The writers hope for their settlement.

A whole sea of sentimental tears threatens to breach the dikes. But those who know Hilda Heinemann think the dikes behind which the work goes on will stand firm. "The lady can be approached," was one comment I heard.

During our conversation I noted a few sentences that in their context did not indicate a single trace of dumb simplicity. "The world is comprised of nothing more than sate and fortune." "This can happen to anyone – I feel as if this belief is becoming more and more widespread." "Fot things to get moving there must be initiatives." "I'm on the side of the underdog." "Not only lamentable conditions, but their causes as well, interest me. Why for example does a boy kill a grandmother that he has loved? "

Sybille, a columnist on the weekly magazine *Stern* asked Hilda Heinemann a few days before the election of her husband what she considered to be her first duty.

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■ INTER GERMAN RELATIONS

East Berlin attacks basis of Western policy

We should not let ourselves be sidetracked when talking of certain issues.

There is little point in wasting many words about the arrogance shown by East Berlin in its demands to the Federal Republic to scrap the German Treaty, the basis of its dealings with the Western powers, and change it into an historical museum-piece.

What is more interesting is the question of what is behind this move, starting from the justifiable assumption that both East Berlin's and Warsaw's treatment of Bonn corresponds exactly to the parts allotted to them by their theatrical director, Moscow.

Remember after 1953 disarmament talks were full of such catchwords as aerial inspection, ground inspection, reduced zones and European security treaty. At that time the West left no stone unturned in its attempts to link disarmament with steps towards the reunification of Germany. We have only to remember the Eden Plans and the Western Peace Plan of 1959.

As early as 1955 Soviet leaders tried to make the Western powers agree to a postponement of reunification and the Peace Treaty. They suggested a European security treaty covering members of Nato and the Warsaw Pact. It would then have been left to Germans on either side of the Elbe to see how they got on with each other.

Ulbricht's demands that Bonn should renounce the German Treaty is a resumption of this old way of thinking. According to the resolution passed on 3 October 1954 at the London nine-power conference this treaty is part of a general settlement concerning, directly or indirectly, all Nato members.

The details of this general settlement were and are as follows:

1: The Federal Republic of Germany is a sovereign state. It is associated with the Western powers and makes a contribution to the defence of Nato.

2: To help the unification of Europe the 1948 Treaty of Brussels setting up the Western European Union is extended and the Federal Republic and Italy become members.

3: The Western European Union carries out a joint armament control in Western Europe. The Federal Republic renounces the production of atomic, chemical and biological weapons.

4: Troops of the Atlantic Alliance in Europe are subordinated to the Supreme Commander of Nato. The United States guarantee to protect Europe. Great Britain links its fate with that of the Continent by pledging to keep troops here.

5: The Federal Republic declares that it will never use violent methods to reunify Germany or to alter the existing frontiers of the Federal Republic of Germany. This has become known as the renunciation of force.

This general settlement, recognised by all Nato members, is nothing less than the basis of Bonn's Western policy. The German Treaty which ended the occupation of the Western zones and came into force in 1955 cannot be dissolved from the complex without the whole foundation crumbling.

But at the moment the passages on German policy are of particular importance. On 3 October 1954 the three Western powers stated in London that:

1: only the Federal government in Bonn is justified in speaking for the whole of Germany.

2: a reunified Germany, set up by a Peace Treaty, was an essential aim of their policy. The final settlement of Germany's frontiers was to be postponed until the Peace Treaty had been signed.

3: they considered the security and well-being of Berlin and the maintenance of the position of the three powers there to be essential elements of peace. This was their guarantee to protect West Berlin.

All Nato powers supported this declaration. As far as the content is concerned there is an extension in the German Treaty. A reunified Germany would have a similar constitution to that of the Federal Republic and would be integrated into the European community.

As a result of their pledges in the four power agreements the three Western powers have preserved for themselves those laws concerning Germany as a whole and the status of Berlin. It must be borne in mind in the present situation that in the revision clauses of the German Treaty Bonn has undertaken not to pursue an independent German policy without the Western powers.

Drawing conclusions from this, the request that Bonn should tear up the German Treaty is no more than a demand by Ulbricht that the Federal Republic itself should destroy the foundation of Western policy and moreover release the Western powers from their responsibility for Berlin and the reunification of Germany. At the European security conference desired by Moscow the Western powers would then be free to approve a control of arms in Europe without considering divided Gennany. This would be precisely what the Soviet Union had in mind in Geneva in 1955.

There is still one more question fo answer. What parts have East Berlin and Warsaw too (this is becoming more and more obvious) received from Moscow?. It seems as though they are to cause the well-disposed Federal government one shock after another until the Federal Republic is forced into the defensive. This is the situation in which Moscow wishes to see Willy Brandt when it comes to the moment of truth in the expected Bonn-Moscow talks on the renunciation of force.

Once again we can see the old, long-known aim of Soviet post-war policy to manoeuvre the Federal Republic into the powerlessness of a deceptive neutrality and thus extricate Western Europe from American's sphere of influence.

Wilfried Hertz-Eichenrode
(DIE WELT, 29 December 1969)

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Her reply ran as follows: "What I consider to be my first duty will be difficult to carry out and that is to push forward through convention to vonversation." But in the meanwhile she has carried it out.

There is no need at all for any fear of not being able to breathe in this house. Even when the subject is serious the atmosphere is very relaxed and gay. Dry humour can be seen in the face of the Federal President.

Did I know the latest *bon mot* in Bonn? I didn't? And he went on to quote Horst Ehmke's "Everything is under control, supercision has been lost."

He is obviously amused by the interest shown in his wife. If I had had a ready tongue perhaps should have asked him whether his wife had any faults, any faults at all. Perhaps he would have revealed one – or some

Manfred Sack
(DIE ZEIT, 2 January 1970)

SED ups demands for recognition

Neues Deutschland, the East Berlin party organ, has once again reminded the Federal Republic that it does not only want to be recognised in international law. Bonn must also leave the Western alliances to which she belongs.

At the recent conference of the East Berlin Central Committee Ulbricht had already said that history demanded the government of the Federal Republic of Germany should unmistakably renounce the Paris treaties.

True to the tactics of forestalling possible inter-German talks, a policy it has pursued before, the Socialist Unity Party (SED) has committed itself in this question too. The editorial of *Neues Deutschland* said that Bonn would have to examine the wording of the German Treaty to see whether it did indeed forbid opening international relations with the German Democratic Republic and what was then to be done. One reservation was made and that was that the Treaty did not actually refer to this directly: But demands were still made to renounce the Paris treaties. There was of course no discussion of a corresponding break of the GDR from the network of Eastern alliances.

The further increase in the GDR's demands shows clearly that East Berlin's statement that its treaty proposals did not contain maximum demands but only the minimum possible was and is meant seriously.

This indeed strenghtens the impression that East Berlin wants to keep latitude for talks at a minimum. This is achieved by its material demands and its provocation of citizens of this country. On the other hand the obstacles that they throw up are obviously an attempt to show their Eastern partners that they are not thinking of opening talks with Bonn.

East Berlin's arguments are not always all that skilful. Recently SED newspapers criticised Federal President Gustav Heinemann because he did not commit himself to the contents of the treaty proposals in his reply to Ulbricht. The newspapers did however have to admit that Heinemann had passed Ulbricht's letter and the treaty proposals on to the Federal Chancellor in line with the law and his sphere of responsibility.

At the same time old accusations against the Federal Republic were renewed – somewhat abruptly. East Berlin's press claims that the activities of revanchist circles still continue under a new Federal government.

Furthermore attention was paid to the attempts of official representatives of the Federal Republic to attend to West Berlin government business. East Berlin claims that this is on the increase even though Bonn has shown clear discretion when it comes to a Federal presence in Berlin.

Finally Federal Minister of Defence Helmut Schmidt is attacked blindly for his "aggressive military policy".

All in all the GDR press is still writing a lot on the issue of an inner-German treaty even though Bonn has said that is reply will not be made until the first half of January.

(Handelsblatt, 29 December 1969)

Bonn remains firm in the face of Ulbricht's demands

The Federal government will not let itself be discouraged by East Berlin's tactics of steadily increasing its demands. It is still pursuing the aim of objectivo discussions.

Egon Franke, the Minister of Inter-German Relations said that tactics of this sort must be faced with patience and composure.

On 27 December 1969 East Berlin demanded that Bonn should withdraw from the German Treaties that it has signed together with the Western allies in Paris in 1955. That weekend Federal Chancellor Willy Brandt put forward for discussion his own plans for a treaty.

Speaking on South-West Radio Brandt said that his report on the state of the nation, to be held this year on 14 January, would concentrate entirely on the situation in divided Germany. Brandt said that Bonn's counter-proposals to Ulbricht's plan for a treaty would show "what we imagine to be the settlement of relations between the two state-like bodies on German territory." His starting points is the fact that "in the constitution of the German Democratic Republic the existence of a German nation is intimated."

The GDR's latest demand was contained in an editorial of the Socialist Unity Party organ *Neues Deutschland*. It claims that the Federal government should free itself from the discriminating conditions of the treaties that allow the allies privileges over Germany as a whole. The party organ reminded the Social Democrats that they too had voted against the ratification of the treaties in the Bundestag in 1955. It goes on to say that Bonn must now examine the treaties of Paris to see whether they allow the Federal government to open relations with the GDR at all.

Replying to East Berlin's demand Foreign Minister Walter Scheel said that it was mistaken to assume that the German Treaty imposed discriminating limitations on the Federal government with respect to the settlement of relations with the GDR.

"In its attempt to come to a settlement of its relationship with the GDR the Federal government was making the effort to preserve the unity of the nation the basis of its dealings." In this the Federal government was fulfilling a condition of Basic Law. Independent of this, the Minister said, the four Allies are responsible for Germany as a whole and Berlin.

Egon Franke said that it was extemely interesting that attempts were now being made to unearth the past. "But we shall still have to take part in talks and look forward, Nobody should be dogmatic when discussing this issue. I for one have enough patience to try everything to bring about talks," the Minister said.

Kurt Georg Kiesinger, Christian Democrat leader, called the GDR's demands an attempt to remove the Federal Republic from the Western community so that this could be destroyed, preparing a way for communist hegemony over the whole of Europe.

He added that the treaties were so annoying to Ulbricht because it was in these treaties first of all that the three Western powers promised the Federal Republic, as a condition of their entry into Nato, that she would be recognised as the only legitimate representative of the German people and that they would identify themselves with her policy of reunification in peace and freedom.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 29 December 1969)

STAGE

Hans Henny Jahnn's 'Sign of the Dark Angel'

HOMOSEXUAL TREATMENT OF OLD TESTAMENT THEME

On the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the death of writer Hans Henny Jahn, who died on 29 November 1959 in Hamburg, the *Städtische Bühne* in Münster staged his play *Spur des dunklen Engels* for the first time.

The play was completed in 1952. There may be several reasons why it had to wait seventeen years for its premiere. Federal Republic theatres probably hesitated at the idea of presenting a play with such a decisive homosexual theme to it.

There can hardly by any question of his being risky nowadays. Numerous contemporary authors have cleared the path which Jahnn's play is now following. In Münster the play was received by an appreciative audience and no catcalls were to be heard.

But apart from this those concerned with presenting the play for the first time may have doubted its merits and its actability.

Their reservations become comprehensible to anyone who saw the effort that theatre manager Horst Gnekow put into the production of the play and the questionable success of his work.

What has been presented here is a poor biblical story of David, Saul and Jonathan. The plot is concerned with the more or less proven historical facts of the events that took place after the introduction of the Kingdom to old Israel.

The Israelites who, were constantly at war with their neighbours, wanted a king. They needed a strong central force. Reluctantly the prophet Samuel bowed to the demands of the people and political necessity and anointed Saul king. He had been elected by the leaders of the Israelites since he had distinguished himself in the war against the Ammonites.

Hans Henny Jahnn has his own version of this. To him love is the only driving force behind the events and the story.

This is a depiction of love between men and young boys. Jahnn let Samuel have Saul anointed king because he loved him.

It was an evening when the sun was red that they met. At this on the stage in Münster a bright red paper sun is seen in the ascent. The scene is repeated. But it is not Saul who makes his entry on the stage but a shepherd boy. He is just as beautiful as the young Saul used to be. This is David.

Samuel the "Kingmaker" brings him together with Jonathan, the successor to the throne. He does not hesitate for one moment to hand over his right to the throne to the boy.

This is love at first sight. David has to do no more than offer his love and his music. Not only is he a shepherd boy but he is also a composer.

It is from this that the play with all its intricacies, its intrigues and confusions gains its momentum. Saul, too, burns with love for David. This quickly turns to anxiety and hatred.

Even the Prince of the Philistines, Goliath, would have been spared his shameful fate if he had not fallen in love with the boy, who was sent to him as a war remuneration. David struck Goliath down with his sling.

This did not prevent the king of the Philistines, Achis, from joining forces with David. David was pursued by Saul and with his volunteer army he entered into the sevice of the enemy king.

In the war against the Philistines Saul and Jonathan are killed.

The play sets out to show how a young boy, loved by friend and foe alike, and early in his life infected with the idea of power and ruling is increasingly led astray by this idea and ruined by it so that in the end he becomes a tyrant. It is David who gives the play its title – 'the dark angel'.

In Münster the emphasis was laid on the adjective 'dark'. There was no trace of an angel in this David, played by Knut Koch.

He was a grim character, languid and sullen, who slunk around showing only the occasional signs of animal urge.

But then the whole production seems languid and ponderous. All the actors drag themselves across the stage in slow tempo as though they wanted to have nothing to do with the whole business and they show this clearly.

All movements and gestures are petrified into a static and heraldic choreography. Even when pistols and machine guns spring into life there seems to be little of what might be called turbulence. Instead it seems to be bewilderment on the part of the actors.

This has the effect of making all the characters and events devoid of meaning and connection. They are just frigid abstractions.

This impression is only borne by the set design. Symeon Karafyllis' setting is in stark contrast to the passionate nature of the events.



Helmut Gentsch and Knut Koch in Jahnn's 'Sign of the Dark Angel'
(Photo: Heinz Koschinski)

It is totally antiseptic and kills every germ of dramatic tension. It is made up of colourful figures adapted freely from Hans Arp and Hard Edge.

It reaches the height of banal simplicity with a musical quartet of shop window dummies.

Davis himself only plays on a silvered concert grand. The music was written by Jahnn's son-in-law Yngve Jan Trede. He and Hans Henny Jahnn's daughter Signe Jahnn-Trede were responsible for setting the atmosphere that Horst Gnekow used for this version of the play. *Eo Plunien*

(DIE WELT, 18 December 1969)

Ministry aids young film-makers

Young film-makers may be supported in their efforts to bring their work to the cinema by the Ministry of the Interior.

Six feature films of the New Wave, promoted from public funds, have to date not yet found distributors. In order to bring them to the public's attention it is planned that there should be trial runs in fifteen Federal Republic towns with the central government guaranteeing box office takings.

Selling the films and individual promotion programmes will be left to the producers themselves. In addition the government will make available cash aid for advertising. This plan should be put into action in March and April 1970.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 12 December 1969)

Bialas' 'Story of Aucassin and Nicolette' premiered in Munich

In the fairy-tale Cuvillies Theatre the people of Munich brought to life a fairy-tale and received extraordinarily long and stormy applause for it. The story of "Aucassin et Nicolette" was first adapted by Tankred Dorst 14 years ago, based on the *chantefable* narrative with songs dating from the thirteenth century for a puppet theatre.

This was re-written under the title "The Moor Woman" for television and theatre audiences. Now it has been further adapted in conjunction with composer Günter Bialas into an opera libretto.

It would be possible to greet this premiere from the bottom of one's heart with joy if there were not the fear that in this way the head of the Munich Opera House Günther Rennert was trying to convince his fellow citizens that they were prepared for the new music. For Bialas's opera has has little to do with music from and for today as Egk's "Casanova" ballet, Sikker's "Spiel von Liebe und Tod" or Bennet's "Napoleon kommt", which have so far been Rennert's contributions to the contemporary repertoire.

Now to Bialas. It is as if Ingeborg Hallstein and Hans Wilbrink, as the innocent and idealistic loving couple in Bennet's Napoleon opera, had made their mark on him. Now she is the racy Moor Nicolette, who is dragged into the war and travels to France and with the Count's son Aucassin learns French among other things. She chirps her bird-like coloratura and after many a fairy-tale fantasy is united with her loved one who has to sing sensitive lyrical baritone arias.



Ingeborg Hallstein and Hans Wilbrink in a scene from 'The Story of Aucassin and Nicolette' (Photo: Felicitas Timpe)

As far as the singers' guild is concerned the music of the 62-year-old Munich professor and composer from Upper Silesia is honeyed. This is used to the full by Anton Friedrich Lenz, Anton Raimund Grumbach and Anton Kieth Engen. They accompanied the action with their commentaries. They are clowns who mix in as actors and prompters from the wings. This is nothing new and we must doff our hats to the old acquaintances, Brecht, Wilder and the Stravinsky "The Soldier's Story".

Dietrich Haugk's acrobatic direction is made part of Günter Schneider-Siemssen's refined but simple stage design, which throws critical details into the right light, that is to say a grotesque one.

The Count says, "A folklore story". The Viscount replies, "Very fine!" Fine and sensitive are also the words for the music conducted competently and energetically by Matthias Kuntzsch. The tone of the at most thirty-piece orchestra is fine and sensitive.

The score is masterly and not far from very precise l'art pour l'art. The work is full of parody using a carefully programmed piano and other accoutrements. Bialas is really being himself when he allows his lyricism its full range and flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet and strings can trace a fine melodic line, and when percussion is brushed lightly to give a soft atmosphere. *Heinz W. Koch*

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 15 December 1969)

SCREEN

Underground film-makers confer in Stuttgart, give Mannheim, Oberhausen thumbs-down

For quite some time, particularly since the last festival in Mannheim, a wide public has been made aware that the underground cinema is a more adequate representation of Federal Republic film-making than the regular cinema industry has been for a good twenty years.

The overwhelmingly negative backwash of these films from the press and the public is paradoxically the very proof needed of their importance, their topicality and freshness and needless to say also for the increasing interest which the public is showing in such films.

Everyone has experience how something new often brings with it painful difficulties. Finding a good reception for the new is rare, particularly in the cinema where the traditional products have been pillars of a status quo.

This was confirmed at the most recent film-makers conference in Stuttgart *workshop film 70*. Every evening several hundred people came to see the films, mostly students and school boys and girls. The films were presented in the Auditorium Maximum of Stuttgart University andthey were greeted by the students and they were greeted by the students drapes over the projector.

But most of them stayed on and joined in discussions at the end of the meeting. The fact that most of the films presented were rejected was self-evident and no surprise at all. Much of the criticism was negative but the mere fact that there was criticism at all of these underground films is a positive factor.

The more people who saw these films rejected them the more obvious it became that here was an area, a dimension existing, which could not be reached by the words, the language and the conceptions which are normal in the cinematic world.

The rejection came as a result of the viewers' failure to come to a point where these films touch on reality, that is to say in a *zone maudite*, for which traditional aesthetic ideas are inadequate.

There were plenty of films dealing with the functions of the human body. One of

Süddeutsche Zeitung
MÜNCHNER NEUESTE NACHRICHTEN

these was Peter Kochenrath's *Cyrus*, which had a psychological method of recounting events. A young man is lying alone in bed amusing himself. In between this there are sequences described as, for example, "boy dancing with girl" which upholds a man's behaviour as a motif.

Or the audience sees Irm and Ed Sommers apparently calling for a repressive morality opposed to desire and pleasure, but in reality advocating a lustful and at times beautiful homage to free sex with the seemingly scornful title *About German Mothers*.

Then there is Gernot Eiger's Olympia film *Leibesziehen – Leibeswelten* which denounces the surreptiously hidden sexuality behind all sport. A particularly good specimen is a film by the Viennese director Otto Muehl *Libi 68, Apollo 11* and *Scheißkerl*.

The hottest point of discussion arose from these last three films which are as one of the people involved most pointedly remarked "a long way behind the barriers", which mark off the territory allotted to art.

Muehl's films are above all exact reproductions of his rather theatrical and picturesquely conceptualised works based largely upon ways of acting which come from early childhood and are not disturbed and limited by too many taboos.

This definition is only correct from an adult's point of view since as Signund Freud long since proved the origins of anal eroticism are largely damped down by feelings of repulsion.

The three films shown in Stuttgart by Muehl show almost exclusively anal eroticism and strike me as being typical of a substantial tendency in underground cinema.

Many of the films on show are far behind the barrier. For instance W and B Hein's *Squaredance and Reproductions*, *Happyend* by Kurt Kren or *Das abenteuerliche aber glückliche Leben des William Parmagino* (William Parmagino's Adventurous but Happy Life) by Klaus Wyborny. The effect on many of these films on the audience was dramatic, even nauseating (Wyborny's film even had to be broken off).

The films were full radicalism and had a tendency to destroy anything that could be called cultural. They made very unaccustomed use of film material, particularly of the film as a technical medium. There was much heated discussion about this afterwards. Expressions such as dilettante were bandied around. Some of the pictures and scenes in Otto Muehl's films were undeniably shocking.

There is already great public interest in such underground films as these even through it manifests itself still in a negative manner. The new film from George Moorse *Feuerpredigt* was shown here for the first time to the general public. It showed the grim longing of the renowned television for its beginnings. After *Inside out* and *Zero in the Universe* this was hardly discussed at all. Apart from the film presentations there were some working sessions at which representatives of film-makers from Hamburg, Cologne, Munich and Stuttgart discussed ways and means of turning public interest into the jungle of money at the ticket office.

Everyone was agreed that a unification of the diverging groups in the underground film industry would be useful and even essential. Already the shrewd Atlas film distributors are negotiating to buy up the most successful products of underground film-making.

Some of the regional film-makers have already set about cooperating, for instance the Hamburg and Stuttgart underground film producers who are attempting to build up a business network, which could have big money competition as as result.

Some things, however, would not benefit from a communal business system of this kind. Ideas on what is what in the underground film business are too diversified. The men in Hamburg are trying to set up something of the nature of a nationwide cinema chain on the lines of those affiliated to centrally directed large-scale film distributors. In Stuttgart they want to keep a system of regional autonomy and suggest a sort of federal system such as that of the third television channel with exchange of films and a union covering all the regions.

But there was agreement on a no less important problem concerning film festivals. None of the people present considered either the Oberhausen or Mannheim film short festival as an adequate platform for underground cinema. So it was decided that the third Hamburg Film Festival planned for February should be extended a film fair without letting it lose any of its cultural character.

Whether this clever plan can be realised will be seen in the next few weeks.

Joachim von Mengershausen

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 16 December 1969)

School publishers join forces

In Munich ten publishers has formed the "Deutscher Studienverlag" that will produce and distribute modern textbooks and teaching aids, utilising all appropriate media.

Material for programmed education, tests with possibilities of electronic evaluation and audio-visual teaching aids will be produced in addition to books.

Cooperation with the universities and university television is planned.

The new publishing house will specialise in education, science, history, sociology, medicine and technology.

Associates of the new concern are the publishing houses of Julius Beltz, DuMont Schauberg, Carl Hanser, Kiepenhauer and Witsch, Piper, Rowohlt, Urban and Schwarzenberg, Chemie GmbH, Christian Wegner and Georg Westermann.

The independence of the individual publishers to publish their own books is not affected by the formation of the new Deutscher Studienverlag.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 17 December 1969)

Statistics of play and opera productions in 1969

Die Deutsche Bühne, a monthly magazine published by the *Deutscher Bühnenverein*, has collected statistics of all plays performed on German language stages in the Federal Republic, Austria and Switzerland in the last drama season 1968-1969 and published those which were put on 75 times or more.

The statistics published, divided into musicals and ordinary spoken drama, do not only show the number of performances but also for the first time audience attendance figures.

The figures are based on reports from 187 theatre companies, divided between the three countries as follows, Federal Republic 152, Austria 21, Switzerland 14. It was not possible to obtain any figures from theatres in the other part of Germany.

The list of favourite plays among the musical works names 67 titles of which 37 are operas and theother 29 operettas, musicals and one ballet.

At the top of the table as in the previous dramatic season was the musical *My Fair Lady* with 572 performances on 23 stages and with audience figures of 431,000 people. In the second and third places come the old favourite operettas *The Merry Widow* by Franz Lehar with 397 productions on 18 stages and *Wiener Blut* by Johann Strauss with 304 performances in 15 theatres.

Fourth place is held by Verdi's *La Traviata* the most played opera of last season. It enjoyed 297 performances on 18 stages. 271 performances in 20 different theatres was the record for Mozart's *Magic Flute* which held fifth place. Mozart also held sicth place with *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* which was performed 268 times and ninth place with *The Marriage of Figaro* staged 231 times.

Of Puccini's operas *Madame Butterfly* enjoyed the greatest number of performances being put on 243 times in 23 theatres and thus gaining seventh place.

The following works were staged in new productions more than 20 times: *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* 23 times, *Madame Butterfly* and *My Fair Lady* also 23: *The Marriage of Figaro* 21 times, *Fidelio* 21 and *The Magic Flute* 20.

Of the most popular operas Verdi scores eight successes, Mozart five and Wagner, Puccini and Albert Lortzing three. Johann Strauss and Franz Lehar top the lists for the most performed operettas, with four each, and Millöcker has three.

Other composers such as Tchaikovsky, Richard Strauss and Kalmanesch had two works in this list.

This shows once again how tied to tradition the musical repertoire of German-speaking stages is. Theatres which have sought to extend and rejuvenate their programme have as ever met with resistance from the public, which always wants to review old well-known works rather than discover new ones.

Without doubt drama audiences are more flexible. New plays meet with a warmer reception than new musical works. It is a recent tendency for plays showing the lighter side of life to be more successful than those that debate topical problems. So it is no wonder that the most performed play was Peter Schaffer's *Comedy in Black and White*. This was given at 27 theatres and played 646 times. In the Federal Republic alone this comedy ran to 517 performances seen by about 147,000 people.

The popularity of boulevard theatre accounts for the 546 performances of Frisby's *There's a Girl in my Soup* at seven theatres. The fact that Peter Handke's *Kaspar* gained third place with 508 performances at 21 theatres should not be underestimated. In addition the young author's *Publikumsbeschimpfung* received 162 presentations on stages and was thus among one of the most popular plays.

The particular interest of the contemporary work is strengthened by the fact that Walser's *Zimmerschlacht* was given 434 performances at 24 theatres and Arthur Miller's *The Prize* was put on 418 times on 21 stages.

Also in this vein come Rolf Hochhuth's *Soldiers* which was given 236 performances and Max Frisch's *Biografie* which had 229 performances.

Performances of classical works have dropped. Shakespeare's comedy *Much Ado about Nothing* was put on 250 in seven different theatres. Schiller's *Die Räuber* was performanced by eight theatre companies in 206 performances. It is striking, however, that the classicists drew large audiences. About 147,500 people went and saw the Schiller play and *Much Ado* drew 114,000 people.

In all the 152 different dramas performed more than 75 times are quite a mixed bag of modern and old entertainment, comtemporary problem pieces, classical tragedy and drama and other plays which are among the standard works in any theatre company's programme.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 18 December 1969)

■ SCIENCE

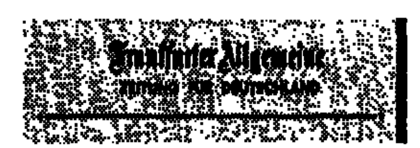
Leussink aims to combat lack-lustre research in the Federal Republic

In the modern world the economic status of industrial nations depends on the achievements of scientific research.

In this respect things do not look very favourable in the Federal Republic. At the moment this is of little consequence but in an emergency situation these shortcomings could prove critical.

Recently this year's Nobel Prizes were awarded to the selected scientists in Stockholm. As ever America was in the *forefront with four representatives.* The other two awards went to a British scientist and a Swede. As usual no scientist from this country was included. Of the numerous Nobel Prizes awarded for physics, chemistry and medicine since the end of the Second World War only four were given in recognition of discoveries made in the Federal Republic. The awards were made to Manfred Eigen and Rudolf Mössbauer, the physicists, Karl Ziegler, the chemist and Feodor Lynen for work done in medicine. The list of awards is not an infallible guide but it is symptomatic. It is scant consolation that the situation in France is equally as bad.

Before 1930 Germany was a Mecca for scientists from all corners of the world. Those who wanted to reach the top in theoretical physics could not ignore what was going on in Berlin and Göttingen. Biochemists flocked to Berlin, Heidelberg and Göttingen. Research institutions in the Federal Republic today have lost their lustre. No American feels it necessary to come here to complete his knowledge of the field in which he is occupied.



Now the situation is reversed. Contact with America is essential for scientists in this country.

Almost everything that has shaped the modern world comes from America or was further developed there. The list includes the iron lung, the artificial kidney machine, polio vaccines, the most important drugs and medicaments, solid state physics, astronomy, genetics, space explorations, semi-conductor technology and laser and computer technology.

This does not mean that good scientific work is not being done in the Federal Republic. There are isolated outstanding achievements such as immunology research by Westphal in Freiburg and the synthesis of insulin by Zahn in Aachen. But there is nothing overwhelming, no breakthrough into new territory. On the whole this country lags well behind America. Scientists are making themselves even more dependent than need be; only work done in America is considered firstrate. This has lead to the unfortunate tendency to copy the Americans and to consider that any work done outside the United States is fruitless. In view of American supremacy in personnel and finance the only possible hope for the Federal Republic is the exploitation of original ideas. But practice has shown that present circumstances are not conducive to this. The following three examples, each typical in its own way, may throw some light upon the situation.

The first case is both striking and baffling. Professor Manfred von Ardenne, held in high esteem as a physicist and one of the inventors of the electron microscope, molecular spectrometer and other important equipment, has been engaged since 1963 in systematic development of the hyperthermic cancer treatment in Dresden – and with success. We can say today with some justification that Ardenne's progressive therapy will in time lead to a solution of the cancer problem.

Eighteen months ago Ardenne stated that the first practical application of his therapeutic principle could follow within a year. His simple method of preliminary treatment – intravenous infusion of glucose, and increase of body temperature to 104 degrees Fahrenheit – increases the sensitivity of cancerous growths so that doctors do not have to use perilously strong X-rays. Growths could then be destroyed with only a tenth of the intensity of radiation required in conventional treatment and far less risk is involved.

Experiments on animals have confirmed these findings. Not one radiologist or doctor using X-rays in treatment has considered it necessary to test thest experiments and perhaps even to develop a less risky method of radium treatment.

Neither has much attention been paid to his systematic groundwork on his general progressive cancer treatment with increased body heat. Most doctors are ignorant of Ardenne's work. As far as we can establish only one medical periodical in the Federal Republic has reported his work – and this only since the beginning of 1968. The word neglect is not out of place here. But purely scientific journals, unconcerned with the fact that von Ardenne is a physicist, preferring to concentrate on the results of experiments, have been carrying reports for a long time.

A second, equally striking instance of the passivity of research in this country is the case of the vapour breeder reactor. But ignorance cannot be claimed here. It is caused by the use of inaccurate figures intended to increase the already considerable difficulties in developing vapour reactors. This happened most recently at this year's Nuclex congress, the atomic energy fair held in Bâsle in October. At the same time the tremendous technological difficulties of the sodium breeder are played down.

In practice the particularly favourable development potential of the vapour breeder has been fully confirmed. Last spring the Ministry of Scientific Research stopped the development of this type of reactor with a reason characteristic of the situation in the Federal Republic. This country, it said, must develop the vapour reactor alone without the support of America, Britain and France and it could not run this risk.

Development of computer programming in this country – Darmstadt was the only place of world rank – was blocked for five years by the decision of the Ministry and the Federal Republic Research Association in 1967, delayed by two years as it was, to install in the Federal Republic Data Centre a large computer which was still to be developed in this country instead of a basically more efficient foreign model already on the market. Development here will remain blocked for at least a few more years. In the meanwhile the introduction in America of the fourth generation of computers is imminent. And the development of software, a programming technique, has completely outstripped that of the Federal Republic.

There is only one plausible explanation for this country's third rate position in the world. This is to be found in the traditional ballast of our scientific system. This system gives the directors of scientific institutes a virtually unimpeded power of decision, even in spheres where their knowledge is insufficient. It is a platitude to say that as a rule great successes can be achieved today only by the combination of specialist knowledge in a narrow field and experience beyond the scope of the individual.

Investigation by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development into scientific and technological development in various European countries has underlined the well-known fact that scientific management is bad. The falling off of the Federal Republic's performance can be attributed to the men at the top and not the scientific teams. These two facts can also be seen in the attidude of American science and industry. Young scientists from this country are still valued and sought after in America for their knowledge and inventive genius. The only Americans to make optimistic evaluations of the position of science in the Federal Republic are those who have the economic achievement of the country in mind.

Teamwork must replace departmental rivalry

As far as can be seen there is only one structural possibility of drawing this country out of its scientific sterility and stagnation. That is by adopting the American team system. Modern scientific and medical research can no longer thrive under doctrinaire institute directors. The only prospects of new fruitful developments are to be found in mutually frank and objective talks between equals. Such dialogues and formation of judgement towards decision making is no unreasonable presumption. Indeed it should go without saying. The body of active scientists who are now classed as juniors within the hierarchy stretches from inaugurated lecturers and graduates to those with higher qualifications and engineers most of whom have long years of experience which cannot be replaced by any one institute director.

Unfortunately it seems that this view will not be accepted by itself without support. For example recommendations made in the last few months in the atomic research centre in Karlsruhe to scientific workers in the name of employee participation represent no more than an attempt to strengthen even further the old position of the institute director.

Attempts to eliminate the voice of those halfway up the scientific ladder by changing research into projects are of this nature. The lesson has not been learnt and the critical nature of the situation is not appreciated. Some people apparently think that the question of employee participation and joint decision making can be evaded through trickery.

Questions by Free Democrat Dr. W. Vogt to the government of the Federal state of Baden-Württemberg about the Karlsruhe tactics and a new muzzle for publications of his scientific colleagues should make it clear to managers at the Atomic Research centre at Karlsruhe and elsewhere that the removal of hierarchic structure in research institutes and centres demanded in Chancellor Willy Brandt's policy statement is meant seriously and allows no room for latitude.

Continued on page 9

■ RESEARCH

New ideas on the origins of life

NOBEL-PRIZEWINNER EIGEN IN DÜSSELDORF

Recently a British scientific periodical printed a cartoon as amusing as it was sinister.

It showed a small Martian climbing down from a flying saucer in an arid desert. He staggers a short distance, tongue hanging out, and croaks, "Ammonia, ammonia!"

Why does he not call for water as we would? The thirsty Martian apparently comes from a distant world where life has not developed from water as on earth but from liquid ammonia. In this world nitrogen has taken over the role of oxygen. Could such an organic world be just a figment of somebody's imagination? The atmosphere of Jupiter consists mainly of methane and ammonia which are always in liquid form because of the low temperatures there.

This brings us once more to the old question of how life may have originated on our planet given the chemical and physical conditions of the original atmosphere and oceans. This question was also recently posed at the working congress of research in Düsseldorf in the discussion on the fascinating lecture on the transfer of information by nucleic acids. This means the reproduction of a living being on the basis of the production of identical protein bodies.

Nobel Prizewinner Professor Manfred Eigen, Director of the Max Planck Insti-



tute for physical chemistry in Göttingen, made quite clear to his listeners from the very beginning that the old question "Which came first, the chicken or the egg? " only seems to be a problem at first sight.

Life according to the definition of biologists does not arise from egg cells, admittedly an extremely complex structure, but from much simpler molecular chains.

By basing itself quite properly only on what can be proved and recorded in experiments modern science begs only one question which immediately takes us back to the origin of things. How does protein matter reproduce?

Since proteins of this kind from ancient times are no longer extant physical chemists must take present properties as a starting point but these are undoubtedly the product of a long evolution. At the beginning of the development there existed molecules that statistically speaking were fortuitous. These later developed the ability to pass on acquired characteristics.

But how could such molecules ever acquire characteristics? Apparently that was only made possible by the formation of certain molecular features. Later, under favourable conditions, strictly specific structures that were adapted to local conditions were added.

In a great scientific step forward, rewarded quite rightly by half a dozen Nobel Prizes, molecular genetics has discovered in recent years that this masterpiece of structural chemistry could in fact only take place in nucleic acids. They are composed of series of amino acids in connection with a carbohydrate basic structure.

Meanwhile pictures of the nucleic acid double helix have appeared in books and the world press. Physical chemists are then led to the question of how many similar molecule combinations are theoretically possible and what are the chances (or what were the chances) that organic matter capable of reproduction would arise from it.

At this point Eigen dumbfounded his audience with a dazzling display of figures of which only one number can be given as an example here: a protein with about a hundred units each consisting of twenty different amino acids could be permutated in ten to the power of 130 different ways. In other words the number of possible series would be 1 with 130 noughts! This number is so beyond the bounds of human imagination that by comparison even the age of the universe in seconds (roughly ten to the seventeeth power) fades into obscurity.

This makes it even more remarkable that out of this diversity nature has selected only two pairs of amino acids. These produce the nucleic acids and with their help as chemical information bearers to foundations of our protein bodies, the polypeptides. This is comparable to Goethe's *Faust* being produced from a random selection of letters.

The formation of new protein bodies needs chemical information. Specific enzymes or highly selective hormones attend to this function. The transfer of information proceeds with such accuracy that there is no more than one mistake in every one hundred million nucleic acids.

Professor Eigen said that the first protein chains capable of reproduction must have originated from a sort of automatic molecule selection. The process is roughly as follows. Their formation in an irregular and unorganised system is aided by catalytic effect, perhaps that of the certain type of sunlight polarised. The system has then become stable around these forms relatively quickly and allowed the others to die off. A feed-back process certainly played its part in the organic chemical mixture of amino acids in the first formation of matter. There must have been a favourable effect on creative substances.

The first basic pre-condition for organic life on Earth was now met. Was that Creation? We do not know. From this stage it is still a long way to cellular organisation, primitive animals and finally to Man himself.

The same conditions present on Earth thousands of millions of years ago probably existed or still exist on other planets within the solar system and even more outside. Eigen stressed that extraterrestial proteins – if they do actually exist – must have developed in their own particular way and must therefore be basically different to those in existence on Earth.

Chemists cannot exclude the possibility that evolution of this type could take place in an environment that does not contain water. Ammonia or sulphur could serve the same function. So if one day a man should climb out of his flying saucer in the desert we must not be at all surprised if he does not like the refreshment he is offered . . .

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 16 December 1969)

Psycho-physiological research begins

A research group into psycho-physiology will shortly begin work at the University of Freiburg.

The Volkswagen Foundation has given the University's department of psychology sums amounting to 1.4 million Marks to help the group in its initial three years.

Psycho-physiology is a new discipline in the border area between psychology and physiology. It describes the connection of physical and mental processes. One of the chief tasks of the group at Freiburg headed by Professor R. Heiss and Dr. J. Fahrenberg is the development and standardisation of suitable test procedures and examination of functions that can be used later in research and therapy control in psychosomatic medicine and rehabilitation.

(DIE WELT, 18 December 1969)

Ion accelerator to be built in Darmstadt

Albert Osswald, the Prime Minister of the Federal state of Hesse, and Hans Leussink, the Federal Minister of Education and Science, have signed in Bonn agreements to found the Society for Heavy Ion Research in Darmstadt.

The main purpose of the society, a limited company, is to establish and operate a heavy ion accelerator as well as research work into heavy ions.

The installation at Darmstadt will be at the disposal of all this country's universities and research establishments as a heavy ion laboratory.

Construction will take four or five years. Total costs are estimated at 75 million Marks. The Federal government will pay ninety per cent and Hesse ten per cent.

The accelerated heavy ions, for example the nuclei of uranium or lead, will be shot at other nuclei in an attempt to create super-heavy chemical elements that do not occur in nature but are still believed to exist.

This country has a lead on other countries in the sphere of heavy ion accelerator construction. Researchers in the Federal Republic hope that they will be able to make the first steps in new territory here.

(DIE WELT, 18 December 1969)

Women's photos used in IQ tests

Yugoslavia is the first communist state in the world to join the European Research Group for Industrial Psychology with headquarters in Frankfurt.

The aim of the research group under the direction of Dr. John H. Ockert is to use a calculated system of psychological tests, psychoanalysis and handwriting to find out all about applicants for top posts in commerce and industry. Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Great Britain, Italy and Switzerland have already joined the research group.

Professor Ockert said that in spite of growing interest shown by personnel chiefs and advisers in tests enterprises in this country were still rather shy of them. Most were satisfied with an expert opinion on the applicant's handwriting which is only part of Professor Ockert's test programme.

He has developed ten different suitability tests for top posts that are used by personnel and business advisers and various firms.

In one of these tests the applicant is given a number of pictures showing women of various sorts – young and old, blondes and brunettes. The applicant must select the photograph that particularly impresses him. The applicant must also state the personal qualities that he can detect from these photographs.

Psychologists believe that the person being tested will always recognise his own qualities in the picture of the woman he has chosen.

For people in this country Professor Ockert has developed a special test with pictures of motor cars. He believes that this corresponds to the German mentality more than the choice of women. Everybody knows that a car is a German's best friend!

There are also pre-selection analyses for applicants and a test of general intelligence that shows accurately all known aspects of intelligence in a thirty minute period.

There are subsidiary tests and tests to show reactions under stress. The applicant's reactions in twenty different critical situations are established. Good salesmen are selected through special tests.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 16 December 1969)

Continued from page 8

Professor Hans Leussink, the new Minister of Education and Science, will play a key position in the necessary removal of the antiquated structures of the research institutes and centres. It will be his job to see that participation of scientific workers at research establishments supported by the Federal government is established and guaranteed in democratic formular, standing firm against criticism from the public and the Bundestag.

The basis for these changes should be the demands of the Association of Scientists at Research Institutes made in a letter to Federal Chancellor Brandt and ministers Leussink and Hans-Dietrich Genscher and the basic principles of the Association published on 9 December.

The stimulation of scientific life depends primarily on Professor Leussink doing all he can to restore to his ministry the credibility and trust that it has lost in the eyes of the public, trust in the absolute objectivity of ministerial decisions in the scientific field and in the Ministry's sphere of responsibility. This sphere of responsibility is based on the judgements of the real experts not of the official representatives of scientific organisations when they have not got the necessary expertise. The trust was also lost with regard to strict and efficient organisation and control of the research and development centres financed by the Federal government. To all effects the Ministry has not exercised this control in the past. That is true above all for the large-scale research and development projects which like the research centres should not become a battleground for personal ambition or desire for power or subjective ideologies. These need competent leadership from the ministry. It is even more urgent that these needs be fulfilled since the great decisions and applications of reactor technique and isotope acceleration are still to come.

If the Ministry of Science has *in the past* not met these requirements or has done so inadequately this can be attributed to people in leading positions. For far too long, in some respects from as early as 1955, these people were dominated by considerations of bureaucratic career and not by objective work. Much was done to prevent capable people being promoted or to push them aside.

Professor Leussink and his new State Secretary will have the job of carrying out this long overdue purge in his Ministry. At the same time he will have to reduce to reasonable proportions the hierarchical outlook which has been assiduously cultivated – for the same reasons as in the research institutes and that is to bring their efficiency up to a level to satisfy demands.

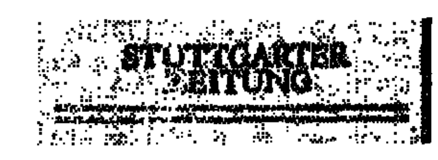
He wants to carry out his task and have a beneficial influence on the scientific future of the Federal Republic.

K. Rudzinski

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 17 December 1969)

BUSINESS

Government must act to prevent recession



If it were not so sad it would almost be a laughing matter. As far as the economic facts of life are concerned, when each of us puts his hand in his pocket and *tries to estimate the outcome of the* economic predictions at the time of the election as it affects him it is shown clearly that prophets on the left-wing and prophets on the right-wing can be unmasked as charlatans.

On the one side revaluation was thought to be the panacea. On the other side it was claimed that there were no grounds for perturbation on account of rising prices.

Meantime the parity of the Mark was altered and at the same time most goods became dearer.

Obviously then the one side was no less incorrect than the other. But that is not the end of it. Since then the SPD and the CDU have changed their attitudes to economic policy.

Karl Schiller is a different man from the one who was pouring out scorn and mockery at Ludwig Erhard not so long ago.

On the other hand the new Opposition which only a few weeks ago was looking with innocent childlike eyes at price statistics has suddenly become aware of the earnestness of the situation and now never grows tired of admonishing the government.

To cut a long story short this country's industrial, economic and finance policies are in a fine mess.

Basically, however, it is not difficult to weed out by the roots the undergrowth of confusion which has been planted as political tactics.

What Lord Keynes once said on the subject still applies. He claimed that the essentials of procedure for a national economy could be sketched on the back of a matchbox. What we are experiencing today is just the confirmation of three old platitudes about the country's economy.

The first is that every unchecked economic boom, if it is not reined in in time, will prove, in the literal sense of the word, costly.

Secondly, that changes to parity, not accompanied by measures intrinsic to economic policy, cannot be panaceas.

The third point is that the effect of revaluation decreases proportionately with the delay in its implementation.

To put this in concrete terms: what is now the cause for complaint could only have been avoided if the Mark had been upvalued in the spring of 1969 and further measures had been taken at about that time to keep the economy cool and calm.

Instead of this people have been blinded by the election campaign and have looked on without doing anything as the world-wide upward spiral of cost and prices attacked the Federal Republic and hit hard, even leading to wildcat strikes.

So this country has slipped back into the same ridiculous but highly unfunny situation as in 1961 under Ludwig Erhard. We have a revalued Mark and imported inflation to boot. Whatever the change to parity can do in these circumstances it will do. It will at least protect us from the full ragings of price increases for foreign goods. That is at least something.

But revaluation cannot do much more about home-made price increases. And that is what is most important today and in the coming months. It is still possible to prevent the inevitable three to four per cent price increase in the New Year becoming a six to eight per cent one.

This will depend very much on the decisiveness of the central government and the insight of the so-called social partners. Everyone realises that at tariff negotiations wage in creases will be demanded to compensate for price increases. reases.

Claims which have been voiced recently are, however, in excess. According to the state of the labour market this may be considered as having an effect on the market economy but not on the social side.

For increased wages and salaries of more than nine or ten per cent are bound to help push up the level of prices by one whole point. The right hand would be grabbing what the left hand had paid out. In this sphere it can only be expected that trade unions and employers will show insight if the central government gives a glowing example itself. This is in no way restricted to the salaries of officials in the public service. Budgetary policy is even more important.

The efforts made by the finance committee of the Cabinet to limit demands should certainly not be underrated. A budget designed to meet the economy must be brought about by building up currency reserves, which would then be ready and waiting for times when economic development was calmer.

Up to the present moment there can be talk of this. It is not only that no one dares to go to the medicine chest of the Economic Stabilisation Act. There is still an intention to increase buying power by lowering taxes and giving tax relief. This would be idiocy with regard to economic policy and very short-sighted if intended to gain political popularity.

Bitter lesson of 1966

Once before the Federal government cut taxes during an economic boom. The fruits of this were bitter. It happened during the tenure of office of Erhard and Dahlgrün. The outcome of their mistakes in the economic field was the recession of 1966/67 and politically speaking the end of the FDP's slice of the government cake and the formation of the Grand Coalition.

Is this to be repeated with only the names changed?

It seems as if the commitee is divided. Some members have buried their heads in the sand, others want to get on with the job. In fact the government can look on at the economic boom and rocketing prices, in future. The only question is whether the next recession will come in autumn 1970 or be put off till spring 1971?

Alternatively the government could take action. Then there would be no fear of a serious backlash but simply a natural brake in the economic high spots followed by another climb to an economic high. The decision should not really be so difficult.

Rainer Tross

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 20 December 1969)

This country's role in development aid

Erhard Eppler, Federal Minister of Economic Cooperation, has claimed that many aspects of life in the Federal Republic are turning out differently from the way they were conceived originally. He stated this at a meeting of the Federal Republic United Nations Association.

There was a certain amount of irony in his claim that the new government, although considering itself a body for domestic reform, is making all the headlines with foreign policy.

Eppler said that the situation was similar to the United Nations which was founded twenty-five years ago in order to prevent wars and arms races and had achieved none of this. When the opponents of the Axis Powers came together to form the United Nations Organisation the words "development aid" were unknown. Today the United Nations does considerable work in this sphere.

In the various organisations, in which the Federal Republic cooperates, work is being done for developing countries which cannot be praised highly enough. The value that these countries place on the Federal Republic can be measured from the fact that during discussions about whether the German Democratic Republic should be admitted to membership to the Economic and Social Welfare Commitee of the United Nations, underdeveloped countries plumped for Bonn and rejected the Eastern countries.

Since the superpowers are not at all ready to take a similar in development aid policy to the one they play with military policy the responsibility falls on the smaller nations.

Although the Federal Republic can be proud of what it has achieved in this sphere its efforts are put in the shade by countries such as Sweden and the Netherlands.

Erhard Eppler, who see in the Pearson Report one of the most important keys for opening the portals to the second decade of development aid, is realistic enough to perceive that the gap between rich countries and poor will grow wider in the next decade.

He would be content if the relative increase in this gap were no greater. Some countries such as Taiwan, Mexico, South Korea and Iran have shown how it is possible to escape from the vicious circle of the interdependence of education, population growth and economic development.

Eppler sees in the efforts of United Nations organisations in the development aid sphere the first step towards a world domestic policy without which the world would be heading for a catastrophe as opposition between north and south grew.

For the Federal Republic Minister responsible there is no question of the alternatives of bilateral or multilateral aid.

The first decade of development aid programmes began under completely unrealistic terms. Marshall Aid did not turn out to be the pattern for opening underdeveloped countries. Yet nevertheless people embarked on the first ten years of aiding backward peoples towards a civilised existence.

After the failures of years without a strategy people must now ask themselves whether the second decade will commence with a strategy but without hope.

Resignation and frustration are the poorest starting points for efforts to improve the world for moral reasons every bit as much as they are for political and economic factors.

(Handelsblatt, 17 December 1969)

Trade with Peking blossoms

BONN AND TOKYO SHARE LARGE SLICE OF CAKE

Trade between the Federal Republic and the People's Republic of China will once again exceed the 1,000-million Mark level when this year's figures are published. It may even prove to be as high as 1,500 million Marks.

After the first nine months of this year it turned out that the Federal Republic's industry once again made this country the most important trade partner with Red China of all Western European countries.

The share of trade with this country in Red China's total foreign trade has amazingly climbed above ten per cent, and if the trends continue will grow to an even higher percentage.

Attempts by other Western European countries to do more trade with the Chinese and compete with the Federal Republic for first place have once again in 1969 come to nought.

According to industrialists and bankers who are unanimous the gap between the Federal Republic and the countries chasing its tail in this sphere of trade has increased and in fact our economy is improving its lead over competitors.

Medium-term purchasing and investment plans show that in the near future the situation is hardly likely to change at all.

Obviously Peking is placing a lot of reliance for capital investment goods, important semi-finished products and machinery on two countries, Japan and the Federal Republic.

About two-thirds of China's foreign trade is with countries in the Western world and the other one-third with the Eastern Bloc countries. Only ten years ago the exact reverse was true. The volume of trade with China is estimated at about 15,000 million Marks annually, 8,000 million of which is exports from China and 7,000 million imports to Red China.

Lately it has been noticed that Peking is trying to earn currency exchange in Asian states with simple consumer goods in order to be able to buy specialised items from Western industrial nations.

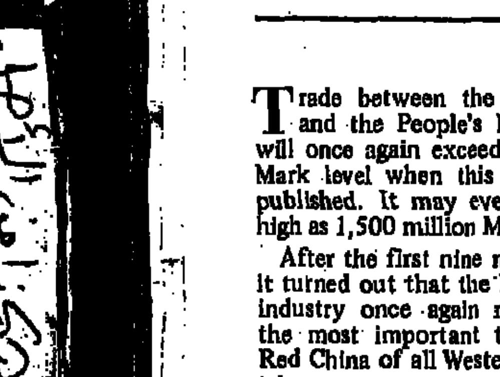
Favourable harvests and rising earnings from agriculture over a long period have cut down China's need to buy up corn on the world market and at the same time has raised the purchasing power of Peking for products needed from the West.

Japan is profiting particularly from this situation. For several years Japan has provided over a fifth of China's imports.

At the moment there is keen competition between Federal Republic and Japanese industry for the Chinese market. Japan has been able to set up large industrial concerns and has boosted its deliveries of iron and steel products as well as machinery. In Peking, however, ther is a tendency for technical and trade reasons to prefer to expand dealings with Federal Republic industry.

Supplies from the Federal Republic have particularly good chances in the field of larger capital investment goods projects. Furthermore the Chinese seem wary of becoming over-dependent on Japan.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 17 December 1969)



ECONOMY

Future of Bundesbank's independence in doubt



Once again the independence of the Bundesbank is the subject of discussions. In connection with the question of appointing a successor to Karl Blessing, the previous President of the Bank of Issue, talk has once again broken out in many places about the future of the Bank.

With the changed circumstances for the Bundesbank many people see many reasons why it should not continue to be an independent body. They consider these reasons to outweigh those which support a continuation of the present ruling set out in § 12 of the Bundesbank Act.

One clause of the Act says: "The Bundesbank is in the exercise of its duties as set out by this law independent of government decrees."

This means that in 1957 situation was created which was in need of interpretation and which without further does not fall into a scheme of power division à la Montesquieu.

Independence from government decrees means for the Bundesbank, then, only independence as long as the Bank is exercising its duties.

It must control the circulation of money and the provision of credit for the economy. Also it must perform the banker's duty of enabling efficient transference of payments at home and in foreign trade, according to § 3 of the Bundesbank Act.

Its aim in all this is to protect the Mark. The meaning of this aim was underlined in § 1 of the Economic Stabilisation Act. But again in this sphere the law's formulators have declined to define this aim precisely and specify what it means in practice.

The result is that in this sphere the Bundesbank has been given a degree of power which should not be underestimated. This is indeed a thankless task.

Safeguarding the Mark is a duty which can scarcely be defined once and for all. It is only loosely connected with the prosperity of the individual and is for the layman a complicated and almost insoluble enigma.

Its advantages can only be measured over a long period of time, whereas the price that must be paid for it is something that strikes home immediately and bitterly.

Economic growth can be effected and benefited without anyone being hurt in his particular field of interests. But the man who is responsible for safeguarding a currency does not find himself in such a fortunate position.

It is a popular pastime and an impressive one to shout from the rooftops news of successes gained in the form of growing expansion rates.

A sober recognition of the fact that a currency has remained stable has no answer for this loud fanfare. Stabilising a currency is not something that can easily be turned into a political success.

Limitations are set to the room executives and legislators have to manoeuvre as a result of the Bundesbank's independence.

Nevertheless for legislators these limitations are not insuperable as long as the Bundesbank Act can be amended with a simple clear majority.

Even people who cling to democratic principles should not view this opportunity for changing a law as one that should be seized immediately.

The legally constituted independence of the Bundesbank has not meant that any road has been closed for reform. It means that a protective wall has been built up as a safety barrier in front of the abyss. It is sheer dynamism of the driving force that heads for this abyss and makes it such a danger.

The independence of this country's central bank of issue, the Bundesbank, makes great demands on systems of communication and readiness to collaborate and coordinate between the Bundesbank and the central government in Bonn.

On both scores there is usually much left to be desired.

But it is the upholding and maintaining of this selfsame tense relationship and the avoidance of total adjustment of one side to the other that is the goal of the institutionalisation of the Bundesbank's autonomy.

Certainly it could never be the policy of the Bundesbank to cripple the economic policies of any central government in Bonn.

There are some very unambiguous clauses to this effect in the Bundesbank Act. On the other hand it can not be the aim of people trying to achieve coordination between the government and the Bundesbank to degrade the latter and reduce it to the role of a mere puppet or servant of the former.

Without doubt there is less danger of an abuse of power on the side of the Bundesbank than on the part of the government. This has been clearly shown by experiences during the past hundred years.

On the other hand the long-term outcome of neglecting currency safeguarding is more disastrous than doing without a one or two per cent economic growth over a short period.

A stable currency is over a long period decidedly a sine qua non, although it often seems as though doing without currency stability is over a short period the conditio per quam of economic growth.

Today whenever it is suggested that the Bundesbank should be brought within the scope of stability laws, institutions and mechanisms to increase the flow of information between the government and the Bundesbank and make coordination simp-

Continued on page 12

(Photo: dpo)

Von Zuydtwyck heads Farmers' Union

The period of interregnum in the Federal Republic Farmers' Union is over. President of the Westphalian Agricultural Union, Konstantin Freiherr Heeremann von Zuydtwyck has been appointed successor to Edmund Rehwinkel.

Baron von Feury, up till now spokesman of the triumvirate in the Union leadership, each of which has equal rights and power, was unwilling to give up his mandate as a CSU member in the Munich regional government.

This was what had been asked of him, since in the past his criticism of the new Federal government always tended to be suspect, as is unavoidable, with people feeling that he was not speaking from conviction, but that there were political ulterior motives in his words and actions.

The new President of the Farmers' Union recently celebrated his 39th birthday. He is said to be one of those practical men of the younger generation, who are far keener on modern management even in agriculture than on clever-clever slogans from old days.

Of course he too belongs to the present Opposition party in Bonn, but he has no mandate in either the Bundestag or a Landtag (regional parliament).

It is significant that he assured agricultural people at a meeting with the North Rhine-Westphalian Minister of Agriculture, Diether Deneke, in Münster that his Union would be without party ties and loyalties and would keep and strengthen contacts with all parties. Where such contacts do not exist he would make efforts to introduce them, at all levels.

Now in Bonn Heeremann will have to prove whether the hopes expressed upon his appointment to President of the Agricultural Union that he will introduce a new style and new directions to the Union are to be borne out or confounded.

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT, 21 December 1969)

High interest rates revive memories of 1929

Even those bankers who normally pride themselves on strong nerves are feeling jittery at present. Many find themselves reminded of the dreadful year 1929.

Just as then interest rates have shot up. In America loans are bringing in nine per cent interest. In this country interest rates on short-term loans are reaping huge rewards.

The reason for this worldwide tendency for interest rates to rocket in well-known. Central banks and governments are determined to counteract inflationary tendencies by clamping down on credit facilities and imposing restrictions.

In the Federal Republic the Bundesbank has raised the Lombard rate, that is to say the rate at which banks lend securities, to a record level of nine per cent. Apart from this it has tightened its credit restrictions in other ways.

The partial and temporary releasing of minimum reserves to a value of more than 3,000 million Marks is of course no compensation for the 16,000 million Marks and more that have flooded out of the Federal Republic since revaluation.

In his last weeks in office as President of the Bundesbank Karl Blessing has not been able to inspire confidence in people that this time the Bundesbank will not have to bear the heaviest burden in the battle against inflation.

In effect the Bundesbank cannot do much against rising prices.

As has been shown in the United States of America companies cannot be scared off making essential investments by extremely high interest charges. This applies all the more when the falling value of money once again makes credit fairly cheap again.

As far as the Federal Republic is concerned industrial investments are necessary since too many companies are still operating in outdated conditions and further economic growth can only come from the profits resulting from higher productivity.

So the Bundesbank cannot lead the fight against inflation. That must be the job of the government in agreement with the two sides in industry.

Alex Möller and Karl Schiller are the men who must make sure that the wave of increasing prices does not become a flood.

Finance Minister Möller can achieve this by effecting strict economy measures especially in the first few months of 1970 and by putting a veto on claims for increased salaries on the part of civil servants.

Economic Affairs Minister Schiller could do his part by winning over the trade unions within Concerted Action and getting them to agree to a measured wages and incomes policy.

Trade union leaders know that if the country slides into a new recession they will lose a lot of their power in the face of employers and that the situation would lead to the collapse of the SPD/FDP coalition government.

It is time for the Bundesbank to alter its course. Of course it can hardly be expected that the new men in the Bank will turn the wheel hard in their first few weeks of office.

Moreover cutting back interest rates in his country is senseless. As soon as cash became cheaper it would flood across the borders.

A few months after he moved into the Economic Affairs Ministry Karl Schiller negotiated with colleagues from the Western world at Chequers for a concerted lowering of interest rates.

The prospects of a new "Chequers" next spring are not unfavourable. Interest is growing in measures to make credit cheaper on an international basis.

Diether Stolze

(DIE ZEIT, 19 December 1969)

Foreign trade profits down on 1968

A report issued by the Statistics Office says that in November imports to the Federal Republic were worth 8,153 million Marks, 955 million or thirteen per cent higher than for the same month last year.

Exports for the same month were worth 9,599 million Marks, 363 million or four per cent up on November 1968.

In comparison to the previous month foreign trade had dropped with imports down by 1,367 million Marks or fourteen per cent and exports dropping by 1,373 million Marks or thirteen per cent.

The foreign trade balance for November 1969 showed a surplus of 1,446 million Marks as compared to a balance of 2,038 million Marks in November 1968 and 1,453 million Marks in October 1969.

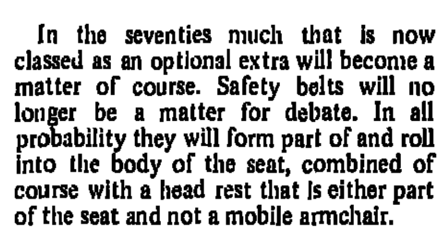
In the first eleven months of 1969 this country imported goods worth 89,700 million Marks and exported articles to a value of 103,200 million Marks.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 22 December 1969)

■ AUTOMOBILES

The shape of cars to come

COMPACT STYLING SHOULD DOMINATE



If the car of the future bears any resemblance to today's specials it will be extremely low-lying and long. Yet the likelihood of this coming about is slight indeed. The average five foot eighter prefers not only to get in and out with relative ease but also to sit fairly comfortably.

Providing economic trends continue traffic density will not stagnate; it will continue to increase. A study commissioned by Deutsche Shell forecasts 17.4 million motor vehicles by 1975 and nearly twenty million by 1985. One person in three will then be a car-owner.

Cars with big boots and bonnets are unrealistic. As parking space is growing scarcer and city centres are already threatening to grind to a halt because of stationary traffic the car of the seventies is bound to be compact in order to make maximum use of the interior on the smallest feasible base.

Viewed in this light it is more than likely that as far as lower medium-class cars are concerned English designer Alec Issigonis's principle of the transverse-mounted engine-transmission will gain ground.

The British Leyland Mini, the Autobianchi 111 and the Fiat 128 are examples of private cars designed with traffic conditions in mind. The so-called new generation from Daimler-Benz also follows the trend towards compacts making optimum use of the passenger compartment.

In the seventies much that is now classed as an optional extra will become a matter of course. Safety belts will no longer be a matter for debate. In all probability they will form part of and roll into the body of the seat, combined of course with a head rest that is either part of the seat and not a mobile armchair.

There is an increasing tendency to make cars easier to handle with the aim of making it easier for people who are not so well up on the technological side to concentrate more on traffic.

What amounts to European standard in dashboards has already emerged. In the car of the seventies it will definitely no longer be impossible to release the handbrake with the seat belt snapped into position.

As drivers do not come in standard sizes but are short, tall, thin and fat and all want to sit comfortably and drive well the position of the seat must be right. Adjustable-height pedals are thus likely no longer to be the exception rather than the rule.

Steering wheels that can be adjusted both for height and in angle still are the exception rather than the rule. They ought not to be. Servo aids are growing increasingly common as a means of reducing physical effort in steering and braking. Automatic transmission too, which already commands eighty per cent of the American market, is gradually beginning to take over in Europe.

Fully automatic transmission was long the preserve of large and powerful American cars because they could easily cope with the drop in speed and performance and increased fuel consumption hardly mattered.

Meanwhile automatic transmission has been harmonised, refined and built more compactly for smaller European engines with less piston displacement and torque. The drop in performance and increased fuel consumption of three or four miles per gallon are less serious now that automatic transmission hardly suffers from wear and tear.

No gifts of prophecy are needed to forecast that the days of the mechanical gear change are numbered. Increasing traffic density favours automatic transmission and driving comfort is becoming a matter of course.

For safety reasons increasing importance will be attached to even steering. Short-term design aims include directional stability even at high speeds and imperviousness to side winds.

It is well known that specially designed tyres play an important part. Tyres have long ceased to be a random item of equipment. There can be no mistaking the tendency towards greater adhesion and increased safety over even greater distances.

In sports two-seaters and coupes the trend towards centre-mounted engines ensuring optimum weight distribution, steering and road-holding is also unmistakeable. Formula racing cars have been the pacemakers of a development from which a number of centre-mounted engine models already benefit. The seventies may well see private cars with engines mounted beneath the floor.

As regards car-body design the extremely safe passenger cell with concertina front and rear ends will become standard. Struts designed to offset turning turtle and safety doors with genuine safety locks will become a matter of course. The passenger compartment will probably be more generously endowed than hitherto with shock-absorbing materials.

The petrol engine will remain the rule, the Wankel engine possibly representing serious competition for the piston engine. Despite speculation the electric car, which would be the most elegant solution to exhaust problems, running noise- and odour-free as it does, will not have reached the stage where commercial development is inevitable.

Conventional lead batteries are too heavy and store too little energy and although trials of other batteries are in progress they are far from being completed. There is continual talk of gas turbines but they too are still too uneconomic. Fuel cells, which have no contribution to make to clean air requirements, have also yet to represent serious competition to the petrol engine.

In the forthcoming decade the car that needs no servicing will continue to be wishful thinking but there can be no doubt that cars will need less and less servicing at less and less frequent intervals.

Above all more and more synthetic materials will unquestionably be employed. The saving in weight, gain in corrosion-resistance and soundproofing and improvement as regards ease of processing all favour the use of synthetics in car bodies, even though fully synthetic car bodies will remain limited to small runs because of the longer time they take to process and harden.

There has never been such a thing as the most beautiful car per se and individualists will continue in the seventies to cherish dreams on four wheels.

Daimler-Benz design director Wilfert has this to say about future car design: "The form and design of a car body must be developed from technological insights, traffic needs and the comfort requirements of the era, the technologically possible being the limit.

"Yet these factors are subject to continuous change, with the result that automobile development will neither come to a standstill nor reach a final solution.

"Directly or indirectly, exclusive resort to considerations of mere fashion can make vehicles a danger to traffic. At all events purely fashionable forms are subject to swift changes in taste in the car world too and quickly lose their value.

"Function nat fashion ought to be the keynote of body design. In the final analysis what is technologically right is always beautiful."

Even though a majority in the Californian Senate recently passed a law prohibiting conventional combustion-engined cars from 1 January 1975 because of the exhaust danger the rust-prone steam car will certainly not be the shape of things to come.

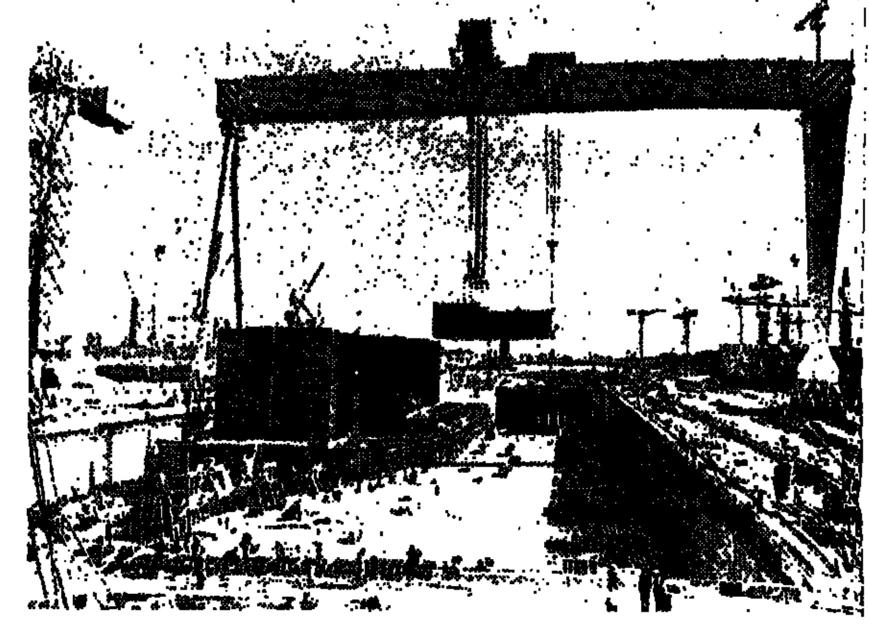
Hybrids such as the Daimler-Benz city omnibus stand a better chance. In town it develops sufficient power from lead batteries; out of town most of its basic energy is provided by a diesel engine with generator attached.

But this too is only a vision of the future. The car of the seventies will probably have more in common with what is now on the market than is generally assumed.

Hannoversche Allgemeine, 20 December 1969

Mercedes' Wankel-engined C 111 with its racing doors spread-eagled.

(Photo: Archiv/Erich Baumann)



World's largest crane

Build for Harland and Wolff in Belfast by Krupp's, this crane can carry an 840-ton payload, equivalent to roughly 1,100 Volkswagen 'Beetles', and at 230 feet tall by 460 feet wide its 3,000 tons of steel would easily encompass London's Tower Bridge. It will help build supertankers in Belfast newest and largest docks.

(Photo: Krupp)

Future of Bundesbank's independence in doubt

Continued from page 11

ler, there should be immediate raising of voices in approval of the scheme.

This suggestion is only brought into doubt when it is intended to bring the Bundesbank within the scope of the stability laws independently of the central government, or if it is intended to group the Bank with those authorities who have a role to perform within the Act which is not clearly defined, so that they are all responsible for everything that happens.

In circumstances such as these responsibility disappears completely. The Bundesbank Act has so far proved quite effective.

Neither the Bundesbank not the central government is proof against incorrect diagnoses and prognoses with regard to policies involving finance.

To say the least it is premature if an act which is still proving its worth, that is to say the currency stability law, is used as the excuse for abolishing or reducing the autonomy of the Central Bank of Issue.

A few weeks ago word was abroad that as a result of lack of security in the sphere of foreign economy price stability was threatened.

As a result of this the Mark was revalued.

Now the burning question is the domestic economy. The most important aspect of this is at present limiting the claims of public budgeting on the gross national product.

It ist part of the Bundesbank's duty to counteract these claims as soon as they threaten to endanger the Mark.

So it remains to be seen whether the Bundesbank's independence can be regarded as an asset to the government or whether it is just a stumbling block to their policies. *Professor G. Schmölders*

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 20 December 1969)

■ MOTORING

Mid-engines for the 70s

UNMISTAKEABLE SAFETY TREND

Even though designers who are to be taken seriously repeatedly voice doubts as to whether racing has any effect whatsoever on the construction of series cars there can be no denying that sport provides a stimulus from which the run-of-the-mill car benefits.

Admittedly the power-packed grand prix racer, stripped of every superfluous ounce for maximum performance, is but a four-wheeled engine steered by a driver lying rather than sitting beneath a suspicion of car body.

Yet these racing cars, mastering curvaceous tracks at full speed with apparent ease, have for years been characterised by what is only now becoming available among series-produced sports coupes: the centre-mounted engine.

It is a well-known fact that every marque with any pretensions has a coupe among its model range. Some of its genuine or pseudo-sporting glamour always rubs off on the other versions.

Optimum use of the space available goes by the board but the coupe is boldly styled and the higher price is willingly paid. Among two-seater coupes the trend towards an engine mounted centrally in front of the rear axle is unmistakeable.

In point of fact the idea of a centrally mounted engine is as old as the motor car itself. Daimler's 1889 steel wheel model with the two-cylinder V engine that created something of a sensation at the Paris world fair had the engine mounted in front of the rear axle.

The same is true of the first Fiat, built in 1899. The first Oldsmobile, dated 1902, with its 1.5-litre single-cylinder engine and rotary gearbox was another. So was the first Lancester.

Rumpler's 1921 car, nicknamed the Drop because of its shape and considered to be the first German car with a rear-mounted engine, had its 2.6-litre, thirty-horse-power engine mounted in front of the rear axle. Clutch, gearbox and rear-axle drive were also housed in a single block.

Above all, the passengers already sat in a well-sprung compartment between the axles and the floor of the interior was completely flat.

The Hanomag "loaf of bread," the first car with a genuine pontoon body, also had a transverse-mounted 500-cc, single-cylinder ten-horse-power engine mounted in front of the rear axle. The same goes for the 1934 Auto Union racing model with its sixteen-cylinder V engine developing 450 horse power and capable of 250 miles an hour.

The Cisitalia, designed experimentally by Professor Porsche but never to go into production, had a water-cooled 1.5-litre twelve-cylinder boxer engine with two compressors and a five-speed gearbox with differential in one block mounted in front of the rear axle.

The argument that clearly favours the mid-engine of forthcoming American sports coupes is the weight distribution, which represents a definite improvement on all other designs. The nearer the centre of gravity is to the bulk of the weight the better a vehicle steers and holds the road.

Front-mounted engine and rear-wheel drive remains the universal standard, though. Front-wheel drive and engine at the rear have advantages and disadvantages of various kinds that manifest themselves in tricky situations.

It is, perhaps, inaccurate to talk of steering a car but understeer and oversteer are certainly the technical terms in the context. Disregarding the theory, which is a matter of course for those who know, let it merely be said that front-wheel drive cars have an unmistakeable tendency to understeer, that is, the wheels may be turned at a crucial moment but the car will tend to move forward in a straight line.

Rear-wheel drive cars are, in contrast, easily steered and good on bends but can skid unless the wheel is turned in the opposite direction of offset the tendency to oversteer.

At moderate speeds an on a dry road this is hardly noticeable but the situation can take a critical turn at high speeds and on wet and slippery roads. Small wonder that every effort is being made to improve road-holding and steering so that too great demands will not be made on the average motorist in extreme situations.

Mid-engines are a partial answer. The central centre of gravity improves stability both on bends and while braking and staying in lane. Another upshot of the more favourable distribution of weight is greater practicable speed on bends and optimum road-holding, the drive wheels being subject to more even pressure than in the case of either front or rear mounting.

What is more, mid-engines make luggage space available both in front and at the rear. The disadvantage for cars that are neither prototypes nor racing models is the amount of space occupied by the engine. This is why all mid-engined cars so far available are two-seater coupes.

It need hardly be added that cooling, soundproofing, servicing and accessibility are most important. As far as noise goes a Wankel engine, which is astonishingly quiet even at high revs, is far better behind the front seats than a roaring twelve-cylinder job.

Viewed in a sober light the Cooper, Lotus-BRM, McLaren, Brabham-Repco. Cooper-Maserati, Ferrari and BRM formula 1 models can all be classified as pacemakers in mid-engine development. Prototypes such as the Pininfarina-designed Alfa 33 Spider and Ferrari P 6 Berlinetta also have a centrally-mounted engine.

So does the three-seater Bizzarini Manta coupe, styled by ex-Ghia design chief Giugiaro. The prototype created something of a stir at the Turin motor show, it will be recalled. The forthcoming Autobianchi sport coupe, so far seen only in prototype, will be powered by a centrally-mounted Fiat 124 S or 125 S engine.

Apart from the VW-Porsche, which will be available with either a 1.7-litre Volkswagen or a two-litre six-cylinder Porsche engine, both centrally-mounted, the new Mercedes C 111, which is at present undergoing trials, has a three-disc Wankel engine in the same spot.

The P 6 BS Rover sports coupe with a V 8 mid-engine developing 160 horse power and capable of 150 miles an hour remains unique for the time being but the Porsche 917 racing model with air-cooled V 12 520-horse-power mid-engine has been manufactured in a small run. The large Alfa 33 coupe with a 230-horse-power V 8 mid-engine is still undergoing trials but the Fiat Abarth 1000 Spider is already on the open market.

The Belgian plastic-body coupe with a Renault 16 TS mid-engine, the French Matra with a 1.7-litre Ford V 4 mid-engine and the Lotus Europa, another two-seater sports coupe with a centrally-mounted modified version of the Renault 16 engine, are all reasonably priced.

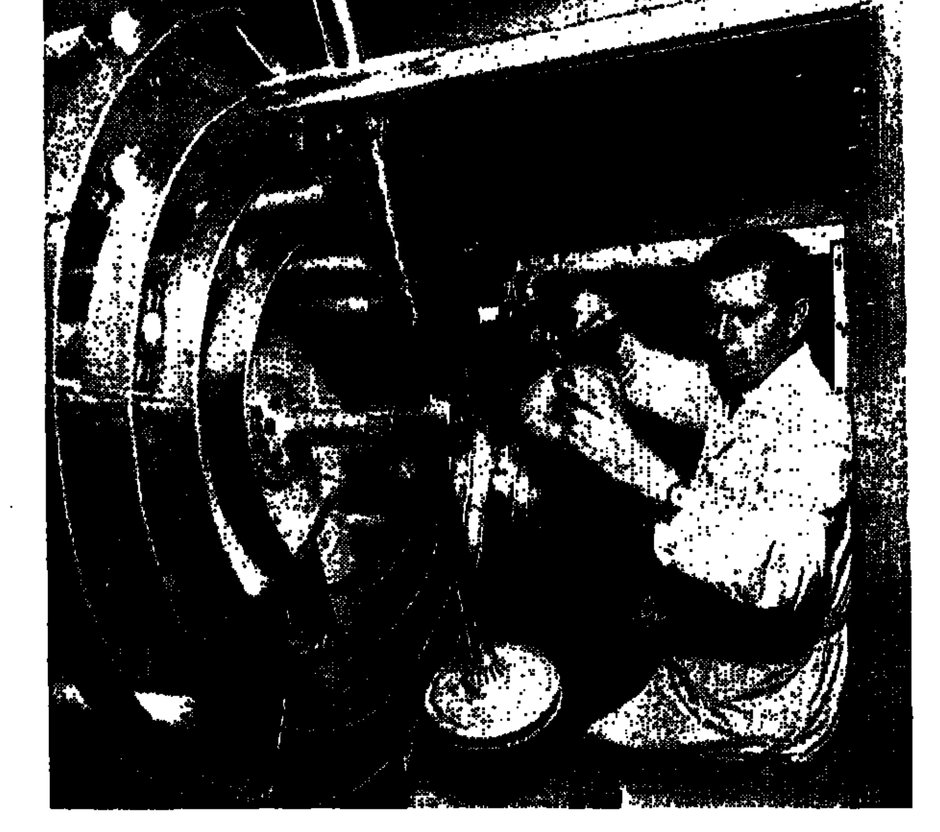
The Ferrari-designed Dino 206 GT and the Lamborghini-Miura with its transverse-mounted 370-horse-power four-litre V 12 mid-engine are, on the other hand, not the car a married man with a family could afford to buy.

The same must be said of the De Tomaso Mangusta, a de luxe Ghia-designed coupe with a Ford V 8 mid-engine, and the Ford GT 40, a pure sports car with a 4.7-litre V 8 mid-engine. This brings to an end the list of present possible buys but there will soon be a greater and more confusing choice.

There can be no doubt whatsoever that mid-engines may one day be the rule among electric cars and gas turbines as well. A compact with engine centrally-mounted under the floor is decidedly conceivable.

In all existing instances rear window vision is restricted, just as it is in the case of slanting fastback windows. The technological concept will lead to new ideas in styling, though. The trend towards the mid-engine is unmistakeable.

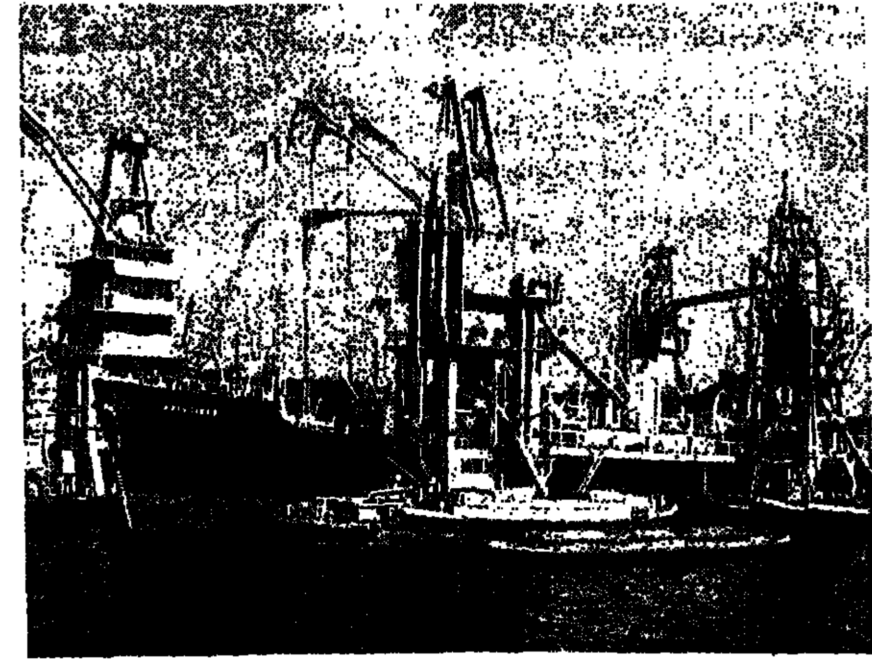
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 20 December 1969)



Olympic transmitter on the testbed

AEG-Telefunken are to install the first 500 kilowatt short-wave transmitters at Ettringen, Allgäu, in time to cover the 1972 Munich Olympics. They will be the first in the world of comparable power that can be turned automatically. Parts of a circuit are here seen undergoing testbed trials in West Berlin.

(Photo: AEG-Telefunken)



Grain-loader 'Hannes' goes into service

In time to deal with a heavy load of incoming grain, seed and fodder cargoes in the days and weeks ahead grain-loader Hannes was recently taken into service. Built by Norderwerft of Hamburg as are all MIAG (Lüneburg) vessels Hannes, like others of its kind, can on- and off-load more than 400 tons an hour, more not being an economic proposition. This particular vessel has two receivers, each capable of handling 200 tons an hour. The receiver is a large container atop the hoisting gear. On its way through to the shutes the cargo is weighed. Most grain-loaders have rigid conveyor pipelines; Hannes has four 26ft 4in. telescopic vertical conveyor tubes.

(Photo: Eberhard W. Haase)

■ MODERN LIVING

Women's emancipation depends on women themselves

Prejudices prove to be tough. Especially when they benefit someone who is in a position of power. Two thousand years ago the Greek tragedian Euripides wrote: "I hate a clever woman. I never want to have a woman near to me who knows more than a woman should know."

And over 200 years ago the French apostle of the idea of a return to nature, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, lamented: "I do not deny to any woman in particular but women in general the talents that men have." This prejudice-laden ideology has gone far. As far as the present day!

In our male-dominated society woman is still Cinderella. She is bound to the home in many ways but mainly through her role, idealised to the point of utter boredom, of wife and mother.

In the 1958 equal rights law it was clearly stated that, "the husband's function was basically the breadwinner for the family whilst it was the wife's duty, principal duty, to be the very heart of the family."

On the question of educating young women more emphasis is laid on "training the heart" rather than expanding the mind or the capacity to reason critically. In her book "Über die Bildungschancen von Mädchen in der Bundesrepublik" (Concerning Educational Possibilities for Girls in the Federal Republic) Dr Helge Pross, sociology professor at Giessen University, pointed out what catastrophic consequences followed on still from this crippling ideology.

In particular Helge Pross sees the maintaining of our democracy as jeopardised if the crying need for political education which is rife among women nowadays is not fulfilled.

"Woe betide us if one day during a crisis some extreme right-wing party discovers women and cleverly manipulates them. Experience has shown that the female part of the electorate cannot normally be won over with radical talk. But without doubt an ultra-conservative anti-democratic party understanding the specific workings of the female mind and able to manipulate it to its own ends with advertising could win over women."

This anxiety does not just come out of the blue. Helge Pross sees signs of the crass need for education among girls and women in several striking facts. Firstly there is the fact that girls do not so often take part in further education courses. Secondly there is the tendency for women to spend a shorter time at school. Thirdly comes the fact that women tend to be restricted to a few professions. Finally there is a stronger tendency among women earlier to break off theoretically orientated educational courses.

The sociologist from Giessen: "The greatest hindrance comes from the division of jobs in society between the sexes and the ideology of the female being which not only supports this division of work places but also promotes it.

Artificial limitations to education are not a law of nature. They can be broken down. Firstly this could come about by raising the educational and further-educational levels for women and girls. Secondly with the help of kindergartens and all-day schools which would take the burden off mothers who go out to work. And finally by promoting part-time work. But above all by offering information on what is possible.

It is about time that an end was made to a teaching process that discriminated against women.

Helge Pross is, however, not very confident of this. She says: "The prospects of far-reaching changes to the social situation of women including their education are slim in this country."

The reason for this is women's passivity. They have not learned that the reason they are an under-privileged group is that they have not done the one thing necessary to change the situation – that is to say take action themselves.

(WELT DER ARBEIT, 12 December 1969)

New accommodation for Russian embassy officials in Bonn

Russian diplomats in Bonn will in the future live among themselves. The Soviet embassy has made a bid to buy a block of flats in Bad Godesberg Metzental which is fitted with all modern conveniences known in the West. The site will be financed by the Federal Republic.

The Russian embassy has confirmed that negotiations with the building firm are almost completed. In spring 1970 the 200 embassy officials will be able to move into the block.

The block includes approximately 100 flats, a school, a policlinic, a lecture hall, a club, a cinema and a library. There will also be a playground in what has now become known in Bonn as Little Moscow . A cloak of absolute secrecy enfolds information concerning the amount the Soviet Union paid for this accommodation.

It has not yet been decided if a new Soviet Russian embassy in Bonn should be contemplated. This is despite the fact that according to diplomatic usage there is reciprocity offered to diplomats from one country to another so that the Federal Republic provides the residence used by Semyon Tsarapkin and his chancellery.

Semyon Tsarapkin has made it known that he would like to have an embassy on a sight overlooking Bad Godesberg, but the final decision must come from Moscow.

The Russian government has offered the Federal Republic embassy two sites to build a new building for Bonn's ambassador. On this question Bonn also has, as the Foreign Ministry would have it, 'certain wishes'.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 6 December 1969)

Census by electronics in 1970

The Federal Statistics Office in Wiesbaden hopes that the first census since 1961 will be speeded up using a new method, involving electronic checking of questionnaires. On 27 May 1970 all citizens of the Federal Republic will be counted for official purposes.

The Statistics Office has now completed preparations for tallying the roughly sixty million population of the Federal Republic using the new method.

In order for the electronic apparatus to function properly the questionnaires must be filled in by pencil since if ballpens or fountain pens are used the electronic equipment will not pick them up. For the approximately 400,000 official census takers who will spend five months compiling information of the people of this country, the most important parts of their equipment are soft-lead pencils and good quality india rubber erasers of a large surface, according to officialese. The statisticians from Wiesbaden have checked on some households on six occasions in the past four years to test the system. Only as a result of these tests could the rules of this question and answer game with the state as the quiz-master and the people of this country as the panel finally be determined.

One of the most important factors which came out of these tests was that ticks are preferable to crosses on the answer sheets. A statement from the Wiesbaden office says: "Many people do not like putting a cross against a printed numbered answer."

Ninety per cent of the population will next May receive a question sheet with eighteen questions on it, each of which will have a number of prescribed answers with instructions to delete what is inapplicable. The other ten per cent of people in this country will have to answer 21 further questions posed them by the government.

The statisticians will ask everyone included in the census the usual questions about themselves, the people in their household, their accommodation, their living and their education.

The extended list of questions will seek information of such matters as monthly net income, proceeds from working machinery and where they were living on the day war broke out in 1939. Most answers will only require a pencilled tick. The remainder will be passed through the electronic checking machines.

Names will be included on the question sheet but when the data is processed they will be kept private, and not registered on the checking equipment.

The census will involve everyone apart from diplomats and foreign military personnel. The census papers will be delivered to where people are employed their working premises. Under the idea of working premises, according to the Statistics Office, building sites and ships at sea are not included.

The official counters have been advised to look carefully for work places which are not in particularly obvious situations, such as basements and outhouses.

No one in the Federal Republic can object to the officials' questions. Anyone who refuses to give the census takers the information they require is breaking the law and risking a fine of 10,000 Marks.

The Statistics Office is hoping that the new electronic method of compiling the information and processing it will knock twelve months off the time before the first results are published. Diagrammatic charts for the public releases of results are already being drawn up in Wiesbaden.

It is manifest that the new counting techniques being tested at Wiesbaden have impressed statisticians from other countries.

Experts from several European countries have asked for details of the new methods. Already people in Switzerland and Austria are being counted by means of pencilled crosses.

(DIE WELT, 9 December 1969)



NEWS IN BRIEF

Warning

Siemens have developed an alarm system which could prove effective against the ever growing menace of the bank robber.

The alarm can be attached to a wad of bank notes. It works on a magnetic principle and a magnetised switch is placed beneath the wooden tray in which bank notes are kept.

If, during the course of a robbery, a criminal tries to remove the money tray an electrical contact is broken and the alarm is set off.

The circuit is kept intact by the concealed magnet and as soon as this is removed from its rightful position the alarm bell rings and the police are alerted.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 10 December 1969)

Preoccupied

Letter-writers in Hanover often seem to be a little absent-minded, if the finds made in pillarboxes are anything to judge by.

Last year 250 identity cards, 50 purses, 40 wallets, not to mention doctors' prescriptions, hospital cards, season tickets for buses and trams and the underground and lottery tickets.

Postal authorities have also found in post boxes school reports, savings bank books, marriage rings, wrist-watches and glasses.

Could it be that recollections of people who should have received these articles causes this forgetfulness?

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 12 December 1969)

Volunteers

Forty per cent of those serving with the Federal Republic Development Aid Service (DED) are female, according to recent official statistics.

The DED headquarters in Bonn also announced that there are 1,000 volunteers from the organisation working in 36 countries overseas.

The organisation has reported that there is a considerable demand for young people with qualifications in the trades, technical jobs and agriculture as well as nursing sisters and social workers.

Up till the end of the year 161 new volunteers are being sent out to 23 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 18 December 1969)

Hamelin

Hamelin, the famous town where the Pied Piper lured the rats to their death with his enchanting music, has become one of the most successful tourist centres in the north of the Federal Republic.

According to the Hamelin tourist organisation the number of people staying their for more than one day in the 1969 tourist season was up by 11.5 per cent on the figures for the previous year.

This increase is far higher than in any other comparable town in the area. Even attractive tourist goals such as the Baltic coast resorts and Hamburg did not increase in popularity so steeply. The Hamelin tourist bureau attributes this success to its advertising.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 12 December 1969)

■ SPORT

1969 Sportsman of the Year awards presented

The 1969 Sportsmen of the Year have been chosen. They are swimmer Hans Fassnacht, field athlete Liesel Westermann and the national show-jumping team. The awards were presented at a ceremony in Baden-Baden. A large number of leading figures from the world of sport and politics were present at this, the twenty-third presentation. Interior Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher addressed the winners as representatives of the ten million members of nearly 40,000 sports clubs in this country. The following articles deal with the transformation of Hans Fassnacht, Liesel Westermann's major sacrifice and the successes of a show-jumping combination that has done so well this year.

Liesel Westermann's defiant decision to set up a new world record in the women's discus instead of the European championship gold medal she would surely have won at Athens was made exactly eleven days before her fantastic 209 ft 10 inches in Hamburg.

It was 16 September, the day on which this country's athletics team decided after days and nights of dramatic debate not to take part in the European championships as a gesture of solidarity with Jürgen May, who was banned from taking part.

In a last vote that morning, two hours before the opening ceremony was due to start, the team had confirmed its decision. It was not to be changed by heated debate at the stadium.

The team marched in with heads hanging down to show the Greeks that their decision was not intended as an affront to the hosts. Many athletes who had trained for months with the season's climax in mind wept as they left the arena.

Liesel Westermann, standard-bearer and the world's best woman discus-thrower, could not keep back her tears. "It is damned difficult to forgo such a great opportunity," she later said, "but we had to stand by our decision. I have no alternative now but to set up a new world record at the first available opportunity."

This was a personal challenge. She knew that no one else could beat her in this, her best season yet.

She proved how seriously she took this undertaking on 27 September in Hamburg. Her world record, set up on her first attempt, was the highlight of the encounter with the British team.

But the twenty-five-year-old teacher from Sulingen, Lower Saxony, owes her position as Sportswoman of the Year to more than a single throw. On sixteen occasions she has thrown the discus more than sixty metres (about 200 feet) and at the year's end she remains unbeaten.

Having previously won the award in 1967, the year she first passed the sixty-metre mark at Sao Paulo, Liesel has again been honoured both for her consistency and for her attitude towards sport.

Seldom can a young man have undergone such a great transformation in such a short space of time as Sportsman of the Year Hans Fassnacht. At the Mexico Olympics just over a year ago the Mannheim boy was one of this country's few hopes for swimming honours.

After coming seventh in the 400 metres crawl great things were expected of him in the 1,500 metres but Fassnacht, seventeen at the time, swam so slowly in the heats that he failed to qualify for the final.

Great was the disappointment in all quarters but no one was as disappointed as Hans Fassnacht himself, who sat crying at the side of the pool, unable to understand why he had proved such a failure.

Yet despite his mediocre performance he had come to the notice of one of the world's greatest swimming coaches. "There's a lad I would like to coach," Don Gambril of California enthused. "One of these days he could beat all Americans hands down and set up world records."

Always ambitious, Hans Fassnacht decided to go to America. With the aid of a grant he commenced his studies at California State College, Long Beach, spending most of his time being coached by Don Gambril.

Gambril's prophecy came true sooner than expected. Within a year Fassnacht swam his way to one world and nine European records. At the European Cup in Würzburg he won all four events for which he entered. "He amounted to virtually the entire national team," the eulogies proclaimed.

When his mother saw him she could hardly believe her eyes. Chubby Hans Fassnacht had in a matter of months been transformed into a muscular athlete thirty pounds lighter. "Oh, he has lost weight!" his mother cried. "The boy's become a man," his father commented.

The change was not merely superficial. He eagerly set about a training schedule that is reputed to be relentlessly tough. He still spends six hours a day in the water, swimming eight miles in the process.

Yet he has never felt this schedule to be too harsh. He has nothing but admiration for the coach. "He goes for your honour and your ambition. He doesn't drill you. His is the psychological approach."

Don Gambril returns the compliment. "I have had many swimmers under my wings but none of them has trained with such dedication and perseverance as Hans Fassnacht. What's more he has gained in self-confidence."

Fassnacht's target is the 1972 Munich Olympics. 1969 is but a step on the road. The Sportsman of the Year award is just reward for the promising transformation from an Olympic failure to a potential Olympic gold.

*

Alwin Schockemöhle, 32, whose fellow-members of the national show-jumping team are Hans Günter Winkler, Hartwig Steenken and Lutz Merkel, has been forced to rest on his laurels for a while. He has worked so hard that a painful spine injury has to be operated on.

A farmer and wholesaler from Mühlen, Oldenburg, and the father of two children, Schockemöhle has been this year's most successful show-jumper, riding from victory to victory on Donald Rex and Wimpel. The feathers in his cap include the International Championship of Germany and the German Derby.

At the European championship in England he was the favourite but had less luck than David Broome. Even so, Schockemöhle and his fellow-members of the Team of the Year won four out of six Prix des Nations tournaments to take home the World Cup donated by Prince Philip for the world's best team in 1969.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 20 December 1969)



Sportsman and sportswoman of the year Hans Fassnacht and Liesel Westermann

(Photo: Horstmüller)

Agreement reached on Olympic finances

Financing of the 1972 Munich Olympics has finally been settled. Announcing the outcome of top-level talks between Federal, state and municipal politicians Chief Burgomaster Hans-Jochen Vogel of Munich has disclosed that the Federal government is to foot fifty per cent of the bill and Bavaria and Munich 25 per cent each.

(DIE WELT, 18 December 1969)

German judokas challenge Japan

NRZ NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG Unabhängige Tageszeitung

This country's judo association just grows and grows. Over the last three years membership has increased by 25 per cent per annum to the present 70,000. This year the breakthrough has come. Judokas in this country are now second only to the Japanese.

At the world championships, held in Mexico, they failed to make major inroads into the Japanese position but the threat is there. Klaus Glan of Hanover and Peter Hermann of West Berlin were silver medallists in the heavy- and light heavy-weight categories and at Ostend the Federal Republic combination became European team champions for the second time.

The successes notched up in recent months are no coincidence. They are the result of hard work. Over the last year five regional training centres have been set up and in future they will lay the foundations of success. Nearly all 1972 Olympic hopes are already in training at one or other of the five centres.

This year saw the establishment of a Federal league, a long-felt need for the top flight. The two-region league has been a success from the start.

(NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG, 18 December 1969)

Aden	SA $ 0.05	Colombia	col. $ 1.—	Formosa	NT $ 5.—	Indonesia	Rp. 15.—	Malawi	11 d	Paraguay	G. 15.—	Sudan	PT 5.—
Afghanistan	Af 10.—	Congo (Brazzaville)	F.C.F.A. 30.—	France	FF 0.60	Iran	Rl 10.—	Malaysia	M. $ 0.40	Peru	S. 3.50	Syria	£ S 0.50
Algeria	DA 0.60	Congo (Kinshasa)	Makuta 7.—	Gabon	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Iraq	50 fils	Mali	FM 60.—	Philippines	P. phil 0.60	Tanzania	EAs 0.25
Angola	Esc 1.—	Costa Rica	C 0.85	Gambia	11 d	Ireland	11 d	Mexico	$ 1.50	Poland	Zl. 0.50	Thailand	B 3.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—	Cuba	P 0.13	Germany	DM 1.—	Israel	I £ 0.40	Morocco	DM —.65	Portugal	Esc. 1.—	Trinidad and Tobago	BWI $ 0.20
Australia	10 c.	Cyprus	11 d	Ghana	cedi 0.12	Italy	Lir. 80	Mozambique	Esc. 1.—	Rhodesia	11 d	Togo	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Austria	S 3.—	Czechoslovakia	Kcs 0.50	Great Britain	11 d	Ivory Coast	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Nepal	Mohur 1.—	Ruanda	F. Rw 12.—	Turkey	T £ 1.25
Belgium	bfr 6.—	Dahomey	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Greece	Dr 4.—	Jamaica	11 d	Netherlands	Hfl 0.50	Rumania	Leu 0.50	Tunisia	65 M
Bolivia	$ b 1.50	Denmark	dkr 0.90	Guatemala	Q 0.15	Japan	Yen 50	Netherlands Antilles	G. ant 0.25	Saudi Arabia	RL 0.60	Uganda	EAs 0.25
Brazil	N. Cr. $ 0.35	Dom. Rep.	RD $ 0.15	Guayana	BWI $ 0.20	Jordan	50 fils	New Zealand	9 c.	Sweden	skr 0.60	UAR	PT 5.—
Bulgaria	Lev 0.05	Ecuador	S 2.50	Guinea	F.G. 30.—	Kenya	EAs 0.25	Nicaragua	C 0.65	Switzerland	FS 0.50	Uruguay	P 20.—
Burma	K 0.60	El Salvador	C 0.30	Haiti	G 0.65	Kuwait	60 fils	Niger	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Senegal	F.C.F.A. 30.—	USA	$ 0.20
Burundi	F. Bu. 10.—	Ethiopia	Eth. $ 0.30	Honduras (Br.)	$ BH 0.20	Laos	Kip 60.—	Nigeria	11 d	Sierra Leone	Le 0.10	USSR	Rbl. 0.10
Cambodia	R 4.40	Fiji	11 d	Honduras	L 0.25	Lebanon	P 40.—	Norway	nkr 0.90	Somalia	Sh So 0.90	Venezuela	B 0.60
Cameroun	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Finland	fmk 0.50	Hong Kong	HK $ 0.70	Liberia	Lib $ 0.15	Pakistan	Rs 0.60	South Africa	Rand 0.10	Yugoslavia	Din. 1.—
Canada	Can. $ —.20			Hungary	Ft. 1.—	Libya	50 Mills	Panama	B. 0.15	South Korea	Won 35.—	Zambia	11 d
Ceylon	cR —.60			Iceland	Kr 5.—	Luxembourg	lfr 6			S. Viet Nam	V.N. $ 15.—		
Chile	Esc. 0.60			India	Rs 0.80	Madagascar	FM 30.—			Spain	Pts 8.—		